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THE

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

PREPARED BY

The late Lieut. Col ROBERT N. SCOTT, Third U. S. Artillery.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

The Hon. REDFIELD PROCTOR, Secretary of War,

BY

MAJ. GEORGE B. DAVIS, U. S. A.,
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PART II—Reports, Correspondence, etc.

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CHAPTER XLVIII.

OPERATIONS IN SOUTHEASTERN VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA.

May 1–June 12, 1864.

PART II.*

REPORTS (except for Campaign from the Rapidan to the James River), May 4–June 9.
CORRESPONDENCE, etc., May 1–19.

MAY 4–6, 1864.—Operations about New Berne, and in Albemarle Sound, N. C., including skirmishes on the Trent Road (4th); and on the south side of the Trent River (5th); Engagement with the Confederate Ram Albemarle (5th); and Surrender of Union Outpost at Croatan (5th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.
No. 2.—Col. Henry T. Sisson, Fifth Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, of the surrender at Croatan.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Carolina.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 7, 1864.

MAJOR: Since I last wrote you in reference to affairs in North Carolina, we have had stirring, but rather satisfactory times here.

On the evening of the 4th instant the enemy appeared on the Trent road toward Kinston, some 8 miles from here, and drove in our picket. Our force there was a small regiment of cavalry and two companies of infantry. These held their ground until dark, when the enemy retired. The next morning a considerable force appeared on the railroad on the south side of the Trent River, and our batteries, both army and navy, were engaged with them until

* For general summary of the principal events, see Part I, p. 1.

e in the afternoon, when the enemy ceased firing. Yesterday morning a flag of truce came in with one Major Read, who stated verbally that he had come by direction of General Hoke, to demand the surrender of the place, as they had possession of the Neuse River, the railroad, &c. I directed one of my aides-de-camp to go to Major Read and to say to him that his delicate jest was duly appreciated by me, but that he must leave in one-half hour, or we should fire upon him. He left immediately, and I have heard nothing from him since.

The forces on the railroad between this place and Morehead, I am told by two deserters, consisted of three brigades of Hoke, Corse, and Walker, all commanded by Walker, with some fifty or sixty pieces of artillery. I believe very little of what I hear, and although this information may be correct I doubt it—that is, I doubt it there was so large a force. Our artillery practice was excellent, and the deserters say that quite a number, something more than 40, were killed. To-day I am having the railroad repaired, the telegraph wire replaced, &c., and before another day I hope to have our communication with Morehead open. I sent a steamer to Beaufort in the evening of the 5th. She has just returned, and I learn from Colonel Jourdan, commanding the Sub-District of Beaufort, that he is all right there, and that he will be able to hold out I firmly believe against any force that may attack him.

The inclosed copy of a letter from Captain Smith, senior naval officer, will explain the operations against the "ram" in the Albemarle Sound. Lieutenant King, of the Engineers, of my staff, witnessed the engagement with the ram, and I think it was a handsome affair. The Sassacus ran into the ram with all the force she could, but she could neither sink her nor roll her over. A shot went completely through the Sassacus, penetrating the boiler and killing 1 man, and scalding badly some 18 others.

The torpedoes are now in the mouth of the Roanoke River, and notwithstanding the formidable character of the ram I have no fears from her here. The rebel force that came here expected, I hear, to find the Roanoke ram here. I am confident of being able to hold everything here. The greatest difficulty I have to contend with is the trouble arising from the timid persons, women and children, and contrabands, who are badly scared. We have, however, I think, laughed the most of them out of their fears.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
A. A. G., Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fortress Monroe, Va.

[Inclosure.*]

U. S. STEAMER MATTAPESETT,
Off Roanoke River, May 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,
Commanding Land Forces in North Carolina:

GENERAL: I have to inform you that I engaged the ram Albemarle yesterday from 4.40 to 7.30 p. m. with all my force, and regret that our efforts to capture her were not attended with success. Our

* See also report of the Secretary of the Navy for 1864, pp. 26–29.

shot had no perceptible effect upon her, close alongside. I drove her, however, into the mouth of Roanoke River, somewhat damaged, I think, but with machinery not disabled. I captured the Bombshell, with 37 prisoners, officers and men. Have not as yet had any official return from the Sassacus, who has her in charge, and is anchored several miles below. Our loss in the large vessel is 5 killed and 26 wounded. I shall be able to hold possession of the sound against any force the rebels can organize at this point.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MELANCTON SMITH,
Captain and Senior Naval Officer.

No. 2.

Report of Col. Henry T. Sisson, Fifth Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, of the surrender at Croatan.

HDQRS. FIFTH REGIMENT RHODE ISLAND ARTILLERY,
New Berne, N. C., May 8, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the capture by the enemy of a portion of my regiment, and to submit the following particulars in relation to the matter:

During several months Company A has been stationed at Croatan, N. C. This place is situated on the line of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad, 12 miles south of New Berne, about half a mile east of Brice's Creek, and 6 miles from Havelock, which is the next station going south. Croatan is an isolated place and exceedingly difficult of access except by railroad, and has been held since the capture of New Berne simply to prevent guerrillas from tearing up the railroad track and cutting the telegraph wire. About 2 o'clock on the morning of the 5th instant the enemy, in considerable force, appeared at Croatan, having effected the crossing at Brice's Creek at a point above our pickets. Arriving at the station they immediately surrounded our men in preparation for an attack and to prevent the possibility of any escaping. In the mean time Captain Aigan collected his men and threw his entire command into the fort at that place, which has one small gun, a 6-pounder howitzer, and opened a vigorous fire on the enemy. A desperate fight ensued, lasting one hour and a half, when the enemy demanded an unconditional surrender. This was refused by Captain Aigan. Subsequently, however, seeing that he could maintain his position but a short time, he agreed to a conditional surrender, the terms of which I have not been able to ascertain. The citizens of Croatan affirm that the enemy freely acknowledged that our men fought with great gallantry. Fortunately, not one of Captain Aigan's command was killed and but 1 wounded. The loss of the enemy is not known. Captain White's horse was found dead in the ditch around the fort where he was shot. The men were allowed, as part of the terms of the surrender, to take two suits of clothing each, which will be of great service to them while they are held prisoners of war. About a week prior to their capture they received four months' pay from the Government. Nearly one-third of the men had re-enlisted as veterans, and had received the first installment of bounty, advance pay, &c. How large the force was that made this raid is not known. Citizens living at Croatan represent that it consisted of a whole brigade. It is a source

of satisfaction to know that the men of the Fifth Regiment who participated in this affair fought bravely and well, and did all that soldiers could do against a foe so unequal in numbers.

Subjoined are the names of the officers and men who were taken prisoners of war, and are now in the hands of the enemy.*

I am, sir, with respect, your obedient servant,

HENRY T. SISSON,
Colonel, Comdg. Fifth Regt. Rhode Island Artillery.

Brig. Gen. E. C. MAURAN,
Adjutant-General of Rhode Island.

MAY 4-JUNE 2, 1864.—Operations on the south side of the James River, Va.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.†

May 4, 1864.—Advance of the Army of the James.
5-11, 1864.—Kautz's raid against the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad, including skirmishes at Birch Island Bridges, Blackwater River (6th), Stony Creek Station (7th), and Jarratt's Station and White's Bridge (8th).
6-7, 1864.—Engagement at Port Walthall Junction and Chester Station.
7, 1864.—Capture of U. S. gun-boat Shawsheen at Turkey Island.
9, 1864.—Engagement at Fort Clifton.
Skirmish at Ware Bottom Church.
Skirmish at Brandon (or Brander's) Bridge.
Engagement at Swift Creek, or Arrowfield Church.
10, 1864.—Destruction of Confederate torpedo station, James River, Va.
Action at Chester Station.
12-16, 1864.—Engagement at Proctor's Creek and Drewry's Bluff (or Fort Darling).
12-17, 1864.—Kautz's raid against the Richmond and Danville Railroad, including skirmish at Flat Creek Bridge, near Chula Depot (14th).
16, 1864.—Skirmish at Port Walthall Junction.
17-June 2, 1864.—Operations on the Bermuda Hundred front.
18, 1864.—Skirmish at Foster's Plantation.
Skirmish at City Point.
20, 1864.—Skirmish at Ware Bottom Church.
21, 1864.—Skirmish at Fort Powhatan.

REPORTS, ETC.‡

THE UNION ARMY

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina, of operations May 4-20.
No. 2.—Return of Casualties in the Union Forces commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, May 5-31.

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* Nominal list shows that 3 officers and 49 enlisted men were captured.
† Of some of the minor conflicts noted in this summary no circumstantial reports are on file; all such are designated in the Index.
‡ See also references to these operations in Grant's report, Part I. For reports of naval co-operation see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

No. 3.—Return of Casualties in the Union Forces commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, June 1–14.

No. 4.—Capt. Lemuel B. Norton, U. S. Army, Chief Signal Officer, Department of Virginia and North Carolina, including operations April 19–June 14.

No. 5.—Capt. Gustavus S. Dana, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, including operations April 17–June 19.

No. 6.—Lieut. Sylvester B. Partridge, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, of operations May 9.

No. 7.—Lieut. Harvey W. Benson, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, of operations June 2–30.

No. 8.—Lieut. Julius M. Swain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, of operations May 1–31.

No. 9.—Lieut. George F. Young, Fifth New York Heavy Artillery, Acting Signal Officer, including operations May 6–June 27.

No. 10.—Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, commanding Tenth Army Corps, of operations May 4–25.

No. 11.—Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, of operations May 12–16.

No. 12.—Col. Joshua B. Howell, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 9–10.

No. 13.—Capt. Leroy A. Baker, Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry, of operations May 14–16.

No. 14.—Capt. Robert P. Hughes, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, of operations May 10.

No. 15.—Col. Joseph R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 9–June 2.

No. 16.—Col. Redfield Duryee, Sixth Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 9–10.

No. 17.—Lieut. Col. Daniel C. Rodman, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 9–14.

No. 18.—Maj. Oliver S. Sanford, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 10 and 16.

No. 19.—Capt. Theodore Bacon, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of operations June 1–2.

No. 20.—Lieut. Col. Josiah I. Plimpton, Third New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 9–June 2.

No. 21.—Lieut. Col. Thomas A. Henderson, Seventh New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 9–10.

No. 22.—Col. Joseph C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 12–16.

No. 23.—Col. Harris M. Plaisted, Eleventh Maine Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations May 7–10.

No. 24.—Col. John L. Otis, Tenth Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 12–16.

No. 25.—Lieut. Col. Winslow P. Spofford, Eleventh Maine Infantry, of operations May 9–16.

No. 26.—Col. Francis A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 7–16.

No. 27.—Col. George B. Dandy, One hundredth New York Infantry, of operations May 7 and June 1–2.

No. 28.—Capt. Frank C. Brunck, One hundredth New York Infantry, of operations May 14.

No. 29.—Capt. Alfred P. Rockwell, First Connecticut Battery, of operations May 9–10.

No. 30.—Capt. Zenas C. Warren, Fifth New Jersey Battery, of operations May 10.

No. 31.—Capt. Loomis L. Langdon, Battery M, First U. S. Artillery, of operations May 5–10.

No. 32.—Brig. Gen. John W. Turner, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, of operations May 12–16.

No. 33.—Brig. Gen. John W. Turner, U. S. Army, of operations of the First Brigade May 9–10.

No. 34.—Col. Samuel M. Alford, Third New York Infantry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 9–16.

No. 35.—Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 12–16.

No. 36.—Col. Harrison S. Fairchild, Eighty-ninth New York Infantry, of operations May 9.

No. 37.—Col. N. Martin Curtis, One hundred and forty-second New York Infantry, of operations May 13–16.

No. 38.—Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 7–15.

No. 39.—Lieut. John H. George, Fourth New Jersey Battery, of operations May 10.

No. 40.—Col. Richard White, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, of operations May 9–10.

No. 41.—Lieut. Col. Henry Boynton, Eighth Maine Infantry, of operations May 9–10.

No. 42.—Col. Jeremiah C. Drake, One hundred and twelfth New York Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 6–16.

No. 43.—Col. Cyrus J. Dobbs, Thirteenth Indiana Infantry, of operations May 10.

No. 44.—Capt. William H. Chaddock, One hundred and twelfth New York Infantry, of operations May 4–16.

No. 45.—Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, U. S. Army, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, of operations May 12–16.

No. 46.—Surg. George Suckley, U. S. Army, Medical Director, of operations May 6–16.

No. 47.—Capt. Preston C. F. West, Aide-de-Camp, of operations May 7.

No. 48.—Lieut. Campbell Tucker, Aide-de-Camp, of operations May 12–16.

No. 49.—James A. Seymour, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp, of operations May 12–16.

No. 50.—Brig. Gen. William T. H. Brooks, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, of operations May 7–16.

No. 51.—Col. Frederick F. Wead, Ninety-eighth New York Infantry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 12–16.

No. 52.—Brig. Gen. Hiram Burnham, U. S. Army, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 7–16.

No. 53.—Lieut. Col. Martin B. Smith, Eighth Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 7–16.

No. 54.—Col. Aaron F. Stevens, Thirteenth New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 7–16.

No. 55.—Col. Horace T. Sanders, Nineteenth Wisconsin Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations May 12–16.

No. 56.—Col. Arthur H. Dutton, Twenty-first Connecticut Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations May 16.

No. 57.—Lieut. Col. Thomas F. Barbee, Twenty-first Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 15–16.

No. 58.—Maj. Hiram B. Crosby, Twenty-first Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 25–26.

No. 59.—Maj. Theodore H. Schenck, Third New York Light Artillery, commanding Artillery Brigade, of operations May 6–16.

No. 60.—Capt. George B. Easterly, Fourth Wisconsin Battery, of operations May 7–24.

No. 61.—Brig. Gen. Godfrey Weitzel, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, of operations May 9–16.

No. 62.—Brig. Gen. Charles A. Heckman, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 6–7.

No. 63.—Col. Josiah Pickett, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 9–10.

No. 64.—Lieut. Col. Orson Moulton, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 6–16.

No. 65.—Lieut. William Daley, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 14–15.

No. 66.—Lieut. James O'Neill, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 15–16.

No. 67.—Capt. Henry C. Dwight, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 15–16.

No. 68.—Capt. Peter S. Bailey, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 15–16.

No. 69.—Lieut. Col. James Stewart, jr., Ninth New Jersey Infantry, of operations May 15–16.

No. 70.—Col. Griffin A. Stedman, jr., Eleventh Connecticut Infantry, Second Brigade, of operations May 12–16.

No. 71.—Capt. George E. Ashby, Battery E, Third New York Light Artillery, of operations May 12–16.

No. 72.—Brig. Gen. Edward W. Hinks, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division, of operations May 5–18.

No. 73.—Col. Joseph B. Kiddoo, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, First Brigade, of operations May 21.

No. 74.—Col. Samuel A. Duncan, Fourth U. S. Colored Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 18.

No. 75.—Col. Benjamin F. Onderdonk, First New York Mounted Rifles (unattached troops), of operations May 7–19.

No. 76.—Brig. Gen. August V. Kautz, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of operations May 5–17.

No. 77.—Col. Simon H. Mix, Third New York Cavalry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 5–10.

No. 78.—Maj. Ferris Jacobs, jr., Third New York Cavalry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 12–17.

No. 79.—Maj. J. Stannard Baker, First District of Columbia Cavalry, of operations May 5–17.

No. 80.—Maj. Ferris Jacobs, jr., Third New York Cavalry, of operations May 5–10.

No. 81.—Maj. Newton Hall, Third New York Cavalry, of operations May 12–17.

No. 82.—Col. Samuel P. Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 5–17.

No. 83.—Lieut. Col. Christopher Kleinz, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, of operations May 8.

No. 84.—Lieut. Col. George Stetzel, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, of operations May 5–17.

No. 85.—Col. Henry L. Abbot, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, commanding Siege Train and Siege Artillery, of operations May 10–June 4.

No. 86.—Capt. William G. Pride, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, of operations June 2.

No. 87.—Col. George W. Cole, Second U. S. Colored Cavalry (unattached), of operations May 13–15.

THE CONFEDERATE ARMY

No. 88.—General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, commanding Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, of operations May 16–June 2.
No. 89.—Maj. Gen. Daniel H. Hill, C. S. Army, of operations May 16.
No. 90.—Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., C. S. Army, commanding Department of Richmond, of operations May 16.
No. 91.—Brig. Gen. Seth M. Barton, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 10.
No. 92.—Col. George K. Griggs, Thirty-eighth Virginia Infantry, of operations May 3–27.
No. 93.—Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke, C. S. Army, commanding division, of operations May 16.
No. 94.—Lieut. Col. George C. Cabell, Eighteenth Virginia Infantry, Corse's brigade, of operations May 16.
No. 95.—Brig. Gen. Bushrod R. Johnson, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 6–11.
No. 96.—Col. John S. Fulton, Forty-fourth Tennessee Infantry, commanding Johnson's brigade, of operations May 7.
No. 97.—Col. R. H. Keeble, Twenty-third Tennessee Infantry, commanding Seventeenth and Twenty-third Tennessee Infantry, of operations May 4–16.
No. 98.—Capt. William N. James, commanding Twenty-fifth and Forty-fourth Tennessee Infantry, of operations May 16.
No. 99.—Col. Abraham Fulkerson, Sixty-third Tennessee Infantry, of operations May 9.
No. 100.—Brig. Gen. Johnson Hagood, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 6–16.
No. 101.—Col. Robert F. Graham, Twenty-first South Carolina Infantry, of operations May 6.
No. 102.—Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, commanding division, of operations May 16–17.
No. 103.—Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of casualties May 16–20.
No. 104.—Capt. George D. Wise, Assistant Inspector-General, of operations June 2.
No. 105.—Col. William B. Tabb, Fifty-ninth Virginia Infantry, of operations May 8.
No. 106.—Brig. Gen. James G. Martin, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of casualties May 20.
No. 107.—Maj. Alexander W. Stark, Stark's Battalion Virginia Artillery, of the capture of the U. S. gun-boat Shawsheen at Turkey Island, May 7.
No. 108.—Brig. Gen. Stephen Elliott, jr., C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations June 2.
No. 109.—Capt. W. L. Trenholm, Seventh South Carolina Cavalry, of operations May 15–16.
No. 110.—Lieut. Col. Wyatt M. Elliott, Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion, Hunton's brigade, of the capture of the U. S. gun-boat Shawsheen at Turkey Island.

No. 1.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina, of operations May 4–20.

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
Near Bermuda Landing, May 9, 1864.
(Received 12 noon, 20th.)

Our operations may be summed up in a few words. With 1,700 cavalry we have advanced up the Peninsula, forced the Chicka-

hominy, and have safely brought them to our present position. These were colored cavalry, and are now holding our advance pickets toward Richmond. General Kautz, with 3,000 cavalry from Suffolk, on the same day with our movement up James River, forced the Blackwater, burned the railroad bridge at Stony Creek, below Petersburg, cutting in two Beauregard's force at that point, and is now operating against Hicksford and Weldon. We have landed here, intrenched ourselves, destroyed many miles of railroad, and got a position which, with proper supplies, we can hold out against the whole of Lee's army. I have ordered up the supplies. Beauregard, with a large portion of his command, was left south by the cutting of the railroads by Kautz. That portion which reached Petersburg under Hill I have whipped to-day, killing and wounding many, and taking many prisoners, after a severe and well-contested fight. General Grant will not be troubled with any further re-enforcements to Lee from Beauregard's force.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

IN THE FIELD, NEAR CHESTER STATION, VA.,
May 12, 1864—3.30 p. m. (Via Fort Monroe.)
(Received 1.30 a. m., 13th.)

I am now pressing the enemy near Fort Darling. I have before me all the troops from North Carolina and South Carolina that have got up. Beauregard's courier, captured this morning going to General Hoke, in command of Drewry's Bluff, had dispatch that Beauregard would join him as soon as the rest of his troops came up. I have left General Gillmore to hold our intrenchments while General Smith demonstrates upon Drewry and the enemy's lines. While this demonstration is going on I have sent General Kautz with his cavalry force to cut the Danville railroad near Appomattox Station, and perhaps he can advance on James River. Will do all I can, but the country is a terrible one to operate in. Please communicate this to General Grant. He will see at once where we are.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 17, 1864. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

On Thursday, May 12, as stated in my last dispatch, I sent out General Kautz with orders to cut the Danville road, thoroughly destroy the iron bridge across the Appomattox, and then, if possible, to cut the canal on the James—the only remaining line of transportation to Richmond—and thence to cross the Appomattox and cut the Weldon railroad at Hicksford, so as to imprison the transportation between Hicksford and Stony Creek, where it was obliged to be massed because of the former cutting at the latter place. To prevent Kautz

being interrupted or followed until at least he was well advanced, and to concentrate the troops on this command that were marching round from Petersburg, so that they should not re-enforce Lee, I marched my whole column, leaving a force of observation upon the enemy at Petersburg, and made demonstration upon the intrenched lines of the enemy around Drewry's Bluff, and remained before them until I learned from the Richmond press that General Kautz had cut the railroad at Coalfield and had safely arrived at the bridge over the Appomattox. Meanwhile we had assaulted and carried the first line of the enemy's works which extends from Drewry's Bluff over the railroad and around to Manchester. On Monday morning about sunrise the enemy, having received re-enforcements which made them then equal to my command, taking advantage of a very thick fog, made an attack upon the right of General Smith's line, and forced it back in some confusion and with considerable loss. As soon as the fog lifted General Smith's lines were established and the enemy was driven back to his original lines. The troops having been on incessant duty for five days, three of which were in a rain-storm, I retired at leisure within my own lines. At the same time with the attack upon my front the enemy made an attack upon the forces guarding my rear from Petersburg, in an endeavor to get possession of my intrenched lines. The attack was handsomely repulsed. We hold the railroad between Petersburg and Richmond. Prisoners inform us that Davis and Bragg were present in person.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD, *May* 18, 1864.
(Via Fort Monroe, 19th.)
(Received 7.25 a. m.)

General Kautz returned last night to City Point with his command. He cut the Danville railroad at Coalfield Station, Powhatan, and Chula Stations, burning depot, water-tanks, and two freight trains and a locomotive, with large quantity of commissary and other stores; then, crossing below, cut the Petersburg and Lynchburg Railroad at Wilson's, Wellville, and Blacks and Whites Stations, destroying switches, tanks, station-houses, and the track for many hundred feet; then, crossing the Petersburg and Weldon road at Jarratt's Station, again burned the water-tank, newly built since the former cutting, tore up the track and destroyed the rails, some of which had been relaid, although much twisted by the fire—altogether a most successful expedition. The enemy are now moving down from Richmond in large force to cover the turnpike and railroad opposite my position, so as to repair it. We have captured some of Longstreet's men and the Charleston (South Carolina) City Battalion.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS, *May* 20, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 7.40 a. m., 21st.)

Have been fighting all day. Enemy are endeavoring to close in on our lines. We shall hold on. Have captured rebel General Walker, of Texas troops. Sheridan is at White House and has sent for a pontoon bridge, which I have forwarded him. Have also sent one of my army gun-boats with launches up the Rappahannock, as requested.

B. F. BUTLER.

SECRETARY OF WAR.

No. 2.

Return of Casualties in the Union Forces, commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army (compiled from nominal lists of casualties, returns, &c.), May 5–31.

(Includes engagements, &c., at Blackwater River (May 6), Port Walthall and Chester Station (6th and 7th), Stony Creek Station (7th), Jarratt's Station and White's Bridge (8th), Swift Creek, or Arrowfield Church (9th), Chester Station (10th), Proctor's Creek and Drewry's Bluff, or Fort Darling (12th–16th), Flat Creek Bridge, near Chula Depot (14th), Foster's Plantation (18th), Ware Bottom Church (20th), Wilson's Wharf (24th), and Bermuda Hundred front, &c. (17th–31st).)

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing		
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.
TENTH ARMY CORPS.*							
Maj. Gen. QUINCY A. GILLMORE.							
FIRST DIVISION							
Brig. Gen. ALFRED H. TERRY.							
First Brigade.							
Col. JOSHUA B. HOWELL.							
39th Illinois	1	13	8	102	1	48	173
62d Ohio	2	19	3	123			147
67th Ohio		2	3	27		2	34
85th Pennsylvania							
Total First Brigade	3	34	14	252	1	50	354
Second Brigade.							
Col. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.							
6th Connecticut	2	8	8	103	1	30	142
7th Connecticut	2	28	2	102	1	68	203
3d New Hampshire	3	36	4	178		16	237
7th New Hampshire		2	2	44		1	49
Total Second Brigade	7	74	16	427	2	105	631
Third Brigade.							
Col. HARRIS M. PLAISTED.							
10th Connecticut		5	1	29			35
11th Maine	1	4	2	43			50
24th Massachusetts	3	5	1	45		7	61
100th New York		10	7	114	4	145	280
Total Third Brigade	4	24	11	231	4	152	426

*The Second and Third Divisions were temporarily organized May 30 as the Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, and so continued until the return from Cold Harbor; see Part I, p. 179. For organization of Butler's command in the field May 5, 1864, see Part I, p. 116.

Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Artillery.							
Connecticut Light, 1st Battery		1	1	14			16
New Jersey Light, 5th Battery				12			12
3d United States, Battery E*		1	1	1			3
Total artillery		2	2	27			31
Total First Division	14	134	43	937	7	307	1,442
SECOND DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen JOHN. W. TURNER.							
First Brigade.							
Col SAMUEL M ALFORD.							
40th Massachusetts		13	4	58	1	21	97
3d New York		3	2	53		8	66
89th New York				6			6
117th New York	1	19	3	59	1	6	89
142d New York		19	5	73		22	119
Total First Brigade	1	54	14	249	2	57	377
Second Brigade.							
Col WILLIAM B. BARTON.							
47th New York	2	4	2	33		20	61
48th New York	1	14	4	96			115
115th New York		6	1	86		7	100
76th Pennsylvania	1	14		119		10	144
Total Second Brigade	4	38	7	334		37	420
Artillery.							
New Jersey Light, 4th Battery		1	1	9			11
1st United States, Battery B							
1st United States, Battery D							
Total artillery		1	1	9			11
Total Second Division	5	93	22	592	2	94	808
THIRD DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen ADELBERT AMES.							
First Brigade.							
Col. RICHARD W[illegible] †							
Col. LOUIS BELL.							
Col. HENRY R. G[illegible] ‡							
8th Maine		16	7	143	2	30	198
4th New Hampshire		7	4	86		85	182
55th Pennsylvania	1	21	8	147	5	159	341
97th Pennsylvania	1	28	9	177		22	237
Total First Brigade	2	72	28	553	7	296	958
Second Brigade							
Col JEREMIAH C. DRAKE.							
13th Indiana	1	19	6	87	1	58	172
9th Maine		14	5	86		7	112
112th New York		3	3	25	1	3	35
169th New York	1	15	1	78		24	119
Total Second Brigade	2	51	15	276	2	92	438

*Transferred from Third Division May 21.
†Captured May 16.
‡Assumed command May 18.

Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Artillery.							
New York Light, 33d Battery				1			1
3d Rhode Island Light, Battery C				4			5
1st United States, Battery M*		1					
Total artillery		1		5			6
Total Third Division	4	124	43	834	9	388	1,402
ENGINEERS							
Col. EDWARD W. SERRELL.							
1st New York (eight companies)				2			2
CAVALRY.							
Capt. LUCIUS RICHMOND.							
4th Massachusetts (1st Battalion)				2			2
Total Tenth Army Corps	23	351	108	2,367	18	789	3,656
EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS							
Maj. Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH							
FIRST DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. WILLIAM T. H. BROOKS.							
First Brigade							
Brig. Gen. GILMAN MARSTON							
81st New York		1	1	22		4	28
96th New York	1	3		9	1	17	31
98th New York	1	14	3	64		12	94
139th New York			1	8	1	9	19
Total First Brigade	2	18	5	103	2	42	172
Second Brigade.							
Brig. Gen. HIRAM BURNHAM							
8th Connecticut	1	9	6	87		34	137
10th New Hampshire		4	5	44		3	56
13th New Hampshire		5	1	22		1	29
118th New York	3	39	3	108	4	42	199
Total Second Brigade	4	57	15	261	4	80	421
Third Brigade							
Col. HORACE T. SANDERS,							
Col. ARTHUR H. DUTTON,†							
Brig. Gen. CHARLES DEVENS, Jr.							
21st Connecticut		14	7	64		24	109
92d New York							
58th Pennsylvania				2			2
188th Pennsylvania		8	1	78		1	88
Total Third Brigade		22	8	144		25	199

*Transferred from First Division May 21.
†Assigned May 17 and mortally wounded May 26.

Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded		Captured or missing		Aggregate.
	Officers	Men	Officers	Men	Officers	Men	
Artillery Brigade							
Maj THEODORE H SCHENCK							
Wisconsin Light, 4th Battery				2			2
4th United States, Battery L							
5th United States, Battery A				2		1	3
Total Artillery Brigade				4		1	5
Total First Division	6	96	28	502	6	118	756
SECOND DIVISION.							
Brig Gen GODFREY WEITZEL							
Brig Gen. JOHN H. MARTINDALE.*							
First Brigade.							
Brig Gen. CHARLES A HECKMAN †							
Brig. Gen. GEORGE J STANNARD.							
Staff					1		1
23d Massachusetts		7	2	23		62	92
25th Massachusetts	1	25	3	119		66	214
27th Massachusetts	1	12	4	79	9	240	345
9th New Jersey	2	16	10	153	3	55	239
Total First Brigade	4	58	19	374	13	423	891
Second Brigade							
Col GRIFFIN A STEDMAN, Jr.							
Brig. Gen ISAAC J WISTAR.‡							
Col. GRIFFIN A STEDMAN, Jr.§							
11th Connecticut		15	2	63	2	125	207
3d New Hampshire	1	4	1	17			23
12th New Hampshire		3		35		7	45
148th New York		12	4	60		2	78
Total Second Brigade	1	34	7	175	2	134	353
Artillery Brigade.							
Capt FREDERICK M FOLLETT.							
New York Light, 7th Battery							
3d New York Light, Battery E			2	6		3	11
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery F		3		14	1	3	21
4th United States, Battery D		1		13			14
Total Artillery Brigade		4	2	33	1	6	46
Total Second Division	5	96	28	582	16	563	1,290
THIRD DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen EDWARD W HINKS.							
First Brigade							
Brig Gen EDWARD A. WILD							
Staff			1				1
1st U S Colored Troops		2	1	14		1	18
10th U S Colored Troops				2			2
22d U S Colored Troops							
37th U S Colored Troops							
Total First Brigade		2	2	16		1	21

* Assumed command May 20.
† Captured May 16.
‡ Assumed command May 7.
§ Resumed command May 18.

Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.

Command	Killed. Officers.	Killed. Men.	Wounded. Officers.	Wounded. Men.	Captured or missing. Officers.	Captured or missing. Men.	Aggregate.
Second Brigade.							
Col. SAMUEL A. DUNCAN.							
4th U. S. Colored Troops				4			4
5th U. S. Colored Troops		2		6		3	11
6th U. S. Colored Troops				5			5
Total Second Brigade		2		15		3	20
Artillery.							
3d New York Light, Battery K							
3d New York Light, Battery M				1			1
2d U. S. Colored Light, Battery B				2			2
Total artillery				3			3
Unattached							
5th Massachusetts Cavalry (dismounted)							
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Companies A and H.							
2d U. S. Colored Cavalry, Company D							
Total Third Division		4	2	34		4	44
UNATTACHED.							
1st New York Mounted Rifles		1		8		4	13
19th Wisconsin *		4		30		1	35
Total unattached		5		38		5	48
Total Eighteenth Army Corps	11	302	58	1,166	22	730	2,179
CAVALRY DIVISION							
Brig. Gen. AUGUST V. KAUTZ.							
First Brigade							
Col. SIMON H. MIX							
1st District of Columbia		2	1	8		9	20
3d New York	1	2	1	19		14	37
Total First Brigade	1	4	2	27		23	57
Second Brigade.							
Col. SAMUEL P. SPEAR.							
5th Pennsylvania		2	1	16		4	23
11th Pennsylvania	1	6	1	13		4	25
Total Second Brigade	1	8	2	29		8	48
Artillery.							
New York Light, 8th Battery (section)							
Total Cavalry Division	2	12	4	56		31	105
SIEGE ARTILLERY							
Col. HENRY L. ABBOT							
1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery		3		2			5
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Company M							
Total Siege Artillery		3		2			5

* Detached from Third Brigade, First Division, May 17.

Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing		Aggregate
	Officers	Men	Officers	Men	Officers	Men	
UNATTACHED CAVALRY.							
1st U. S. Colored		2		3			5
3d U. S. Colored	1	2	1	4			8
Total unattached cavalry	1	4	1	7			13
PONTONIERS.							
Capt. JOHN PICKERING, Jr.							
Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, 13th Company							
Total Army of the James	37	372	171	3,598	40	1,740	5,958

OFFICERS KILLED OR MORTALLY WOUNDED.

CONNECTICUT.

Lieut. George Metcalf, 1st Battery.
Capt. Horatio D. Eaton, 6th Infantry.
Capt. Jay P. Wilcox, 6th Infantry.
Lieut. William T. Bradley, 6th Infantry.
Lieut. Frank Hull, 7th Infantry.
Lieut. Charles A. Wood, 7th Infantry.
Capt. John McCall, 8th Infantry.
Lieut. Levi C. Bingham, 8th Infantry.
Lieut. Alfred M. Goddard, 8th Infantry.
Col. Arthur H. Dutton, 21st Infantry.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Lieut. Henry W. Jackson, 1st Cavalry.

ILLINOIS.

Capt. James Wightman, 39th Infantry.
Lieut. Joseph D. Walker, 39th Infantry.

INDIANA.

Lieut. Alfred Dawdy, 13th Infantry.

MAINE.

Lieut. William Brannan, 11th Infantry.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Lieut. Col. John G. Chambers, 23d Infantry.
Lieut. Richard P. Wheeler, 23d Infantry.
Lieut. Edgar Clough, 24th Infantry.
Lieut. Mason A. Rea, 24th Infantry.
Lieut. Charles G. Ward, 24th Infantry.
Lieut. Charles E. Upton, 25th Infantry.
Capt. Charles D. Sanford, 27th Infantry.
Lieut. Pliny Wood, 27th Infantry.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Capt. James H. Platt, 2d Infantry.
Capt. Henry C. Ayer, 3d Infantry.
Capt. Richard Ela, 3d Infantry.
Lieut. Eugene J. Button, 3d Infantry.
Maj. Charles W. Sawyer, 4th Infantry.
Lieut. John A. Eaton, 10th Infantry.

NEW JERSEY.

Col. Abram Zabriskie, 9th Infantry.
Capt. Edwin S. Harris, 9th Infantry.
Capt. Joseph B. Lawrence, 9th Infantry.
Lieut. Edward S. Carrell, 9th Infantry.

Return of Casualties in the Union Forces, &c.—Continued.

NEW YORK.

Lieut. John Mayes, 3d Cavalry.
Lieut. George L. Schloendorff, 47th Infantry.
Lieut. John A. Smith, 47th Infantry.
Capt. Samuel H. Moser, 48th Infantry.
Capt. Walter H. Benedict, 96th Infantry.
Lieut. Albert B. Phelps, 98th Infantry.
Lieut. James H. French, 100th Infantry.
Lieut. Azor H. Hoyt, 100th Infantry.
Lieut. Col. Elial F. Carpenter, 112th Infantry.
Capt. George W. Brigham, 117th Infantry.
Lieut. William C. Casselman, 117th Infantry.
Capt. John S. Stone, 118th Infantry.
Lieut. William H. Stevenson, 118th Infantry.
Lieut. Edgar M. Wing, 118th Infantry.
Lieut. Walter S. Birdsall, 169th Infantry.

OHIO.

Capt. George Emerson, 67th Infantry.
Lieut. George M. Ballard, 67th Infantry.
Lieut. John C. Cochrane, 67th Infantry.
Lieut. Henry M. Wallick, 67th Infantry.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Lieut. Daniel H. Schriver, 11th Cavalry.
Lieut. John H. Barnhart, 55th Infantry.
Capt. Jacob J. Young, 76th Infantry.
Lieut. Isaac Fawkes, 97th Infantry.
Capt. Hiram R. Shinkel, 188th Infantry.

U. S. COLORED TROOPS.

Lieut. Thomas B. Mains, 2d Cavalry.

No. 3.

Return of Casualties in the Union Forces, commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, June 1–14.

[Compiled from nominal lists of casualties, returns, &c.]

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery		1					1
6th Connecticut Infantry				3			3
7th Connecticut Infantry		4	3	18	4	74	103
1st District of Columbia Cavalry				4			6
39th Illinois Infantry *	1	2				11	38
11th Maine Infantry*		3	3	33		4	43
4th Massachusetts Cavalry, 1st Battalion		1					3
3d New Hampshire Infantry		3		6			9
7th New Hampshire Infantry							
1st New York Mounted Rifles		1					3
67th Ohio Infantry				5			5
5th Pennsylvania Cavalry		1		12	1	1	15
11th Pennsylvania Cavalry		3		11		3	17
3d Rhode Island Artillery, Battery C				1			1
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry		2					2
2d U. S. Colored Cavalry		2					2
6th U. S. Colored Infantry		1		3			4
Total	1	34	10	124	5	93	357

* Lieut. Col. Winslow P. Spofford, 11th Maine, mortally wounded June 2, and Lieut. Albert W. Fellows, 39th Illinois, killed June 2.

No. 4.

Report of Capt. Lemuel B. Norton, U. S. Army, Chief Signal Officer, Department of Virginia and North Carolina, including operations April 19–June 14.

HDQRS. DEPT. VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
September 2, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the signal detachment in this department from the 19th of April to the 31st of August, 1864, including the late active campaign on the James River:

On the 19th of April, in obedience to Special Orders, No. 143, paragraph 51, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, current series, I assumed command of this detachment as chief signal officer of the department. Upon reporting to the chief of staff I was informed that active operations would soon be commenced, and directed to at once prepare my corps for important service. On reviewing the work then being performed by the detachment I discovered that eight signal stations were in operation in the District of North Carolina and six in the District of Virginia. Those of the former gave to general commanding our forces at New Berne communication with all parts of his picket-line and with three forts defending the town. Whenever the enemy threatened or attacked our lines in the vicinity of New Berne the signal communication established was found to be of the utmost importance, enabling the commanding officer to speedily concentrate his forces at the point of attack, and thus rendering the line defensible by a less number of men than it would otherwise have required. Four of the stations in the District of Virginia constituted a line of signals which connected the left and center of our intrenchments south and west of Portsmouth with the headquarters of Brigadier-General Heckman, who commanded that position. In case of an assault the signal communication thus obtained should have materially assisted in the defense. There was also a station at Yorktown and one at Gloucester Point communicating with each other, and by means of which during an attack upon either place the fire of the batteries located at the other could have been directed against the enemy. The same two stations were extensively employed each day in the transmission of official dispatches, particularly after the concentration of the Eighteenth Army Corps at Yorktown and the Tenth at Gloucester Point. In order that the detachment might be rendered in the highest degree serviceable during the anticipated active campaign, more officers, signal stores, horses, and equipments, transportation, clothing, camp and garrison equipage, and quartermaster's stores were needed and at once. Six officers (second lieutenants) were procured from regiments by the assistance of Circular Orders of April 21, 1864, headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, and placed under instruction in signal duty. Two signal officers, who had been on detached service, were directed to report to me (one by the commanding general and the other by the War Department), and 9 signal officers, who had arrived within the limits of this department with the Tenth Army Corps, were placed under my command. The signal supplies were promptly forwarded from the Bureau of Signal Corps at

Washington upon my telegraphic requisitions. The horses, equipments, transportation, &c., were furnished in good time by the different staff departments, and at the commencement of the campaign this detachment was almost thoroughly equipped, and with fair prospects of successfully accomplishing any legitimate work that should be required of it. In view of a contemplated movement by land and water the following assignments were made: Capt. G. S. Dana, with a party of 8 signal officers, to the Tenth Army Corps, and 2 of his most intelligent sergeants (who had been instructed in signals) were supplied with equipments and designed to act in the capacity of officers should their services be thus needed. First Lieut. T. F. Patterson, with a party of 4 signal officers and 3 sergeants, similarly equipped, to the Eighteenth Army Corps. First Lieut. H. W. Benson, to duty with Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. Lee on board the Malvern, flag-ship of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron. Second Lieut. P. Carpenter (who was relieved from duty in the District of North Carolina), to the flag-ship of the army gun-boat flotilla, commanded by Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham. A signal depot of supplies was left at Camp Hamilton, near Fort Monroe, under the charge of an officer of the last detail who was not sufficiently instructed to be able to take the field.

On the 4th of May I was informed that the Tenth and Eighteenth Army Corps were ordered to embark upon transports, which, in the evening, were to assemble in Hampton Roads preparatory to starting early on the following morning on an expedition up the James River. In anticipation of this movement, some of the signal officers and sergeants previously assigned to corps were soon after distributed to the divisions and brigades of those corps. Division and nearly every corps commander had with him upon the steamer occupied as his headquarters the means of communicating by signals with his commanding officers as they moved up the river. On account of the scarcity of signal officers in the department, but 1 could be spared (even at this important juncture) to the navy, and he, therefore, remained upon the flag-ship. In the evening of May 4 I was directed by the commanding general to embark with himself and staff on board the steamer Greyhound, and I obeyed the order at 10 p. m., taking with me as assistants the acting quartermaster and acting adjutant of the detachment.

The trip up the river commenced at an early hour on the 5th, and signals were frequently brought into requisition by the commanding general and his subordinate commanders in the transmission of orders and the making of inquiries. The first landing was made by Wild's brigade at Wilson's Wharf, on the north side of the James, and the signal officer with that command immediately established a station on shore and communicated with the different transports as they passed that point. The next place occupied was Fort Powhatan, on the south side of the river, 7 miles above Wilson's Wharf, and here [left] Stafford's brigade, with the signal party, which latter at once prepared to communicate with the passing steamers and with Wilson's Wharf. We then pushed on to City Point, and there a landing was effected by General Hinks with Duncan's brigade, of his division. A rebel signal party was found at this place transmitting to Petersburg, even while our troops were disembarking, the intelligence of our arrival. The sergeant in charge, his 4 flagmen, his flags, torches, and glasses were all captured, and General

Hinks' signal officer immediately occupied the enemy's station, and from there opened communication with general headquarters on board the Greyhound and with other boats as they came in view. After the capture of City Point we then ascended the river about a mile to Bermuda Hundred, which was occupied by the Tenth and the remainder of the Eighteenth Corps. During the evening of the 5th general headquarters remained on the Greyhound, and signal communication was had with the troops on shore, with City Point, and the different headquarters still on boats in the harbor.

Early on the morning of May 6 an officer was sent to occupy an old rebel signal station at Bermuda, and communication opened at once from it to General Hinks' headquarters at City Point. The advance of the forces under Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith having reached Port Walthall, his signal officer occupied a rebel station at Cobb's Hill, which was abandoned on our approach, and from it obtained communication with City Point, and through the latter with general headquarters on board the Greyhound. On the same day the signal officer at Wilson's Wharf accompanied a detachment of the First U. S. Colored Troops, which captured the rebel signal station party and equipments at Sandy Point, on the James River. The enemy's signalist made an armed defense, and the sergeant in charge and 3 of his men were killed before the surrender took place. The record of all the dispatches and reports sent and received through that rebel station was captured and forwarded to the commanding general. It was noticed that while our fleet was ascending the river on the 5th of May the enemy's stations on both sides were actively engaged in reporting our movements until the very moment of the capture of the City Point station, when their line to Petersburg was severed. The Sandy Point station alluded to above was one of those thus cut off from the terminus, and it would never have been captured had not the sergeant in charge placed a too literal construction upon his orders, which were to remain at his post until "driven off by the Yankees." Signal communication was kept up during the 6th between the flag-ship of Admiral Lee and general headquarters. On the 7th an officer was sent to Turkey Bend to open a temporary intermediate station between the flag-ship Malvern, which had moved up the James to Curl's Neck and general headquarters in the Greyhound. Through this line Admiral Lee transmitted his official report (to the Navy Department and to the general commanding) of the loss of the gun-boats Shawsheen and Commodore Jones, the former having been destroyed by a rebel battery, and the latter by a rebel torpedo. On the same day, the Tenth Army Corps having taken a position with its right resting on the James River opposite Farrar's Island, a station of observation was established at the Curtis house, near that point, and an officer placed there to watch the rebel signal stations on the north bank of the river and the Drewry's and Ball's Bluffs batteries. His observations were reported to Major-General Gillmore. On May 8, the army gun-boats having gone up the Appomattox River to protect the left of our army, communication was opened between the flag-ship of General Graham and the Cobb's Hill station, near General Smith's and General Butler's headquarters, which latter was moved into camp during the afternoon of this day. On the 9th a reconnaissance in force toward Petersburg was made by Hinks' division from City Point and communication by signals was kept up between the land forces and

the army gun-boats assisting them. On the same day the rest of our army moved out to destroy the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, and on reaching the turnpike flag signals were operated between the various portions of the Tenth Corps engaged in destroying the railroad and the headquarters of Major-General Gillmore. On the 10th the troops of the above mentioned expedition returned to camp, and during the return march signal communication was had by Brig. Gen. John W. Turner, commanding the rear guard, with his rear skirmish line. On the 11th flag signals were established along the line of intrenchments from General Ames' headquarters, near Battery No. 3, to General Terry's headquarters at the Curtis house, and through it with Admiral Lee, whose iron-clads were protecting the right of our line on the James River opposite Farrar's Island. On the 12th Colonel Duncan with his brigade, of Hinks' division, proceeded to occupy and fortify Spring Hill on the south bank of the Appomattox opposite Point of Rocks, and communication by signals was opened for him with his division commander at City Point, and through the Cobb's Hill station with Major-General Smith, commanding the corps. On this day another general advance was made to get possession of the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad and turnpike. Notwithstanding the thickly wooded nature of the country, the signal detachment was usefully employed during this march. On the 13th signal communication was maintained throughout the day and night between the headquarters of the general commanding at Cheatham's house, near Kingsland Creek, and those of General Smith, near the Half-Way House, on the turnpike. On the 14th a station was placed at the Half-Way House (then occupied as the temporary headquarters of the general commanding), communicating with one at our advanced line on the turnpike, and with an officer placed on the right of our line near the James River, to observe the movements of the enemy. On the 15th communication by flag was had between General Smith's headquarters at Friend's house (which was also General Butler's during the day) and General Gillmore, commanding the left.

Early on the morning of the 16th, during a very dense fog, our forces were attacked and driven back a short distance. Shortly after the fog lifted communication was opened between the headquarters of the commanding general at Cheatham's house and a station of observation at the Half-Way House, near which General Smith occupied a position on the field. Afterward our troops in the center were forced back and General Gillmore's command ordered to withdraw from the left and form in rear of the center. Signals were brought into requisition during this change between General Gillmore's position near the turnpike and his troops while they were leaving their old line west of the railroad. Late in afternoon of same day our whole army returned to its intrenchments, and the signal stations previously occupied therein were reopened.

During the assault of the enemy upon our intrenchments on the 20th stations were placed at Battery 6 and Battery 1, both communicating with Battery 3, the former also with the Cobb's Hill station and Battery No. 1, also with the Curtis house, on James River, thus giving a line of signals around the intrenchments from general headquarters, near Cobb's Hill, to the flag-ship Malvern, on the James, and between the different batteries, enabling them to direct the fire of each other upon any particular object.

On the 20th also about 3,000 of the enemy's cavalry, under Fitzhugh Lee, attacked Wild's brigade at Wilson's Wharf, and during the fight, which lasted from 2 till 6 p. m., the signal officer at that post directed the fire of the gun-boats upon the enemy and kept up constant communication with Fort Powhatan, 7 miles distant, and where was located the nearest force that could afford assistance, if necessary. For these services then rendered the signal officer and his party received the thanks of the general commanding the post. On the 25th a code for rocket alarm signals was devised by Major-General Smith and his signal officer, and rockets furnished by this department to be used along our picket-line in case the enemy should make any demonstration at night. The same code and system was adopted by General Gillmore on the 26th for the right of the line, and his pickets were also furnished with rockets. On the 27th, by consent of the chief of staff, 3 signal officers were relieved from the Tenth Army Corps and assigned to duty with the mobile column of Major-General Smith, who had at that time but 1 signal officer in his new command of 20,000 men, and who requested that he be furnished with 3 more. On the 30th I accompanied the general commanding to a point on the Appomattox, opposite Port Walthall, and enabled him by means of signals to direct the fire of Spring Hill Fort upon the railroad at Walthall Junction. On the 31st about 700 of the enemy attacked Duncan's brigade, posted at Spring Hill, on the south bank of the Appomattox, and the signal communication previously established between the two sides of the river was maintained and called into constant requisition throughout the fight. During this short engagement the commanding general occupied a position at Point of Rocks, and a station was there opened communicating across the river with the officer commanding at Spring Hill and with the commander of the gun-boats in the stream. The attack was repulsed in a few hours and the enemy retired.

In the District of North Carolina the same signal stations were operated during the month of May that were found there when I assumed command, and nothing beyond the usual routine of signal duty transpired until the 26th, when the station built across the railroad track at Batchelder's Creek was destroyed by the accidental explosion of some torpedoes, which it is supposed were being carelessly handled from the cars beneath the signal station. By that accident 2 flagmen were killed and 1 wounded.

During the month of June the following changes were made in the signal stations already established, and the following new ones opened and operated: The station at Bermuda Hundred, which for over a month afforded the only rapid means of communication had between that place and City Point, was discontinued on the 13th because of a telegraph line having been extended between the two points mentioned. Considerable official business between the quartermaster's department and General Hinks' command, and between the commanding general and General Hinks, was, during the existence of the Bermuda station, transacted over its signal line. The stations previously established at Battery No. 1 and the Curtis house were removed on June 11, the former to General Terry's new headquarters, which he had changed from Curtis' house to a camp in the woods, 1 mile to the rear of Battery 6, and the latter to a tower, 50 feet high, at the water battery, which was built for purposes of observation and to facilitate communication with the gun-

boats in the James. It was from this latter station that the enemy's movements across the James were discovered and reported, and some of their important signal dispatches intercepted.*

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Capt. and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

Maj. R. L. DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Va. and N. C.

No. 5.

Reports of Capt. Gustavus S. Dana, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, including operations April 17–June 19.

HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., June 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of operations from the time of leaving the Department of the South until May 31, 1864:

On the 17th of April, 1864, I embarked on the steamer Northern Light, in obedience to Special Orders, No. 163, headquarters Department of the South, accompanied by First Lieuts. Wilson Bruyn and Charles F. Cross, and Second Lieuts. Charles Weihl, Fred. J. Amsden, W. W. Clemens, Oscar B. Ireland, Nathan B. Roberts, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, and Second Lieut. Frank L. Morrill, acting signal officer, and 36 men. Arrived at Gloucester Point, Va., where we encamped, April 22. An officer was immediately stationed at corps headquarters, Fort Keyes, to communicate with General Smith's headquarters at Yorktown. In obedience to orders received from headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, I reported to Capt. L. B. Norton, chief signal officer, Department of Virginia and North Carolina, on the 24th of April. Soon after reaching Gloucester Point I made requisition for the necessary supplies for the outfit of my party, which was only partly furnished; even now not half my men are mounted. On the 3d of May I received orders from General A. H. Terry, temporarily commanding Tenth Army Corps, to assign an officer to each division and brigade, as far as possible, and accordingly made the following disposition of my party: First Lieut. Charles F. Cross, First Division; First Lieut. Wilson Bruyn, Second Division; Second Lieut. F. J. Amsden, Third Division; Second Lieut. N. B. Roberts, First Brigade, First Division; Second Lieut. Charles Weihl, Third Brigade, First Division; Second Lieut. W. W. Clemens, First Brigade, Second Division; Second Lieut. F. L. Morrill, First Brigade, Third Division; Second Lieut. Oscar B. Ireland and myself to accompany corps headquarters. I also assigned Sergts. S. M. Reed and J. D. Emerson, with signal equipments, for temporary duty to the Second Brigade, First Division, and Second Brigade, Second Division, respectively. Communication between headquarters Tenth Army Corps and Yorktown was discontinued on the evening of May 4, and by daylight the next morning the troops had all embarked on

* For continuation of report, see Vol. XL, Part I.

transports. Signal communication was opened between corps, division, and brigade headquarters while moving up the James River and kept up until our arrival at Bermuda Hundred. Disembarked and moved out to the front May 6.

Established a station of observation at the Curtis house in the a. m. of the 7th, keeping watch on Drewry's Bluff, Ball's Bluff batteries, and three of the enemy's signal stations on the north side of the James River. The latter were discontinued the next day. Part of Richmond was also visible, and steamers could be traced in their course up and down the James River. On the 9th our army moved out to destroy the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. On reaching the turnpike signal communication was established between General Terry's headquarters at Chester Station and General Ames' headquarters near Port Walthall Junction, as shown by accompanying map;* also having two stations of observation communicating direct with General Gillmore's headquarters. On returning from Swift Creek on the 10th signal communication between General Turner, commanding rear guard, and his rear skirmish line was kept up. In the a. m. of the 11th signal communication at the front was established from General Ames' headquarters, near Battery No. 3, to General Terry's headquarters at the Curtis house, thence to Admiral Lee's flag-ship in the James River.

The injury I received in being thrown from my horse on the evening of May 8, aggravated by the subsequent fatigue and exposure, induced a fever, which on the 11th of May placed me under the surgeon's care, remaining in my quarters until May 20. The effects of this fall I am not free from yet.

On the 12th this force moved toward Fort Darling, my party being assigned as before, Lieutenant Cross taking charge. The stations worked May 15 and 16, as shown by the accompanying map, were nearly all under fire at different times. The force returned to this place in the evening of the 16th, and the stations at the front were reopened. During the assaults on our works May 20 signal communication was opened from Batteries Nos. 1, 3, and 6 with the navy, via Curtis' house, and with each other, to enable the fire to be directed, which communication has since been uninterrupted. Made monthly inspection on the 25th and found the stations, equipments, &c., in fair condition, except the glasses in possession of most of the officers, which were poor. These have now been exchanged for good ones.

On the 26th Captain Norton having furnished me with some rockets, they were sent to our picket-line to be used in case of an attack. On the 27th 3 officers and 9 men of this party were, by Special Orders, No. 21, headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, transferred to the Eighteenth Army Corps. Owing to the sickness of Lieutenants Clemens and Roberts it became necessary to discontinue the station at Battery No. 6, but it was resumed on the 31st.

The stations now being worked by my party are as follows: At Curtis' house, communicating with Admiral Lee's flag-ship in the James River and with Batteries Nos. 1 and 3, also used as a station of observation; at Battery No. 1, to enable the signal officer at Battery No. 3 to direct No. 1's fire; at Battery No. 3, communicating with Curtis' house, Battery No. 1, and Battery No. 6; at Battery No. 6, com-

* Not found.

municating with Battery No. 3 and Cobb's Hill station on the bank of the Appomattox River, all of which are shown on the accompanying map. They are exposed to the enemy's fire constantly. There have been seventeen stations established and worked by my party since coming to this place; twelve of them under fire, four of the latter now in operation.

Very respectfully, yours,

GUSTAVUS S. DANA,
Captain Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

Capt. L. B. NORTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., July 23, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of operations for the month ending June 30, 1864:

The stations reported as being worked by this party May 31 continued unchanged, with the exception of one at Battery No. 6, which was removed 200 yards to the left to avoid the concentrated fire from the enemy's batteries to which it was exposed while in its former position, until June 7, when signal communication between headquarters Tenth Army Corps and Battery No. 3, via General Terry's headquarters, was established, air lines having been cut through the woods for that purpose. To further facilitate the communication between the army and Admiral S. P. Lee, whose flag-ship is in the James River near Dutch Gap, as well as to gain an excellent post of observation, I received permission to erect a tower on a high bluff on the bank of the James River, about 300 yards to the rear of the Curtis house, abandoning the Curtis house, and communicating with the batteries and the different headquarters, via General Terry's headquarters. This communication was established on the 12th, an air line having been cut through the woods between General Terry's headquarters and the tower.

On the night of June 8 I accompanied General Gillmore on the expedition toward Petersburg, having with me Second Lieut. O. B. Ireland, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, and 5 men.

We reached the defenses of the city at 11 a. m., and finding them too strong to be assaulted with any show of success by our small force, General Gillmore ordered the return to our old post, which we reached on the evening of the 9th. No opportunity was offered for using signals, but Lieutenant Ireland and myself made some important observations.

During the remaining portion of the month the lines of signal communication remained the same, the stations worked by this party being as follows: From Admiral Lee's flag-ship Agawam, lying in the James River near Dutch Gap, to the tower at the water battery. As a station of observation this tower has proved invaluable, all the movements of Lee's army crossing to the south side of the James, as well as all the movements of the enemy near Chaffin's farm batteries, Howlett's house, &c., having been reported by the officers on duty there. From the tower to General Terry's headquarters, thence to General Gillmore's headquarters; also to Battery 3, through which communication is kept up with the tower on the

bank of the Appomattox River, via Battery No. 6, thence to Spring Hill. The accompanying map* shows the stations worked by this party, also those with which we are in communication.

I take pleasure in stating that I have been ably seconded in all my efforts since leaving the Department of the South, each and every officer and man having done his whole duty nobly, nearly every station being worked under fire frequently, gaining much praise from the commanding officer. Having suffered from ill health almost continually since leaving the Department of the South, I applied for and received leave of absence to go North for thirty days, leaving this department June 19.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, yours,

G. S. DANA,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

Capt. L. B. NORTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

No. 6.

Report of Lieut. Sylvester B. Partridge, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, of operations May 9.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, 18TH ARMY CORPS,
City Point, Va., May 10, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of operations during yesterday, May 9:

I accompanied General Hinks on a reconnaissance toward Petersburg, Va., taking with me 1 flagman. I endeavored from several points to discover the position of General W. F. Smith and to communicate with him, but he was not at any time in sight. General Graham moved up the Appomattox River with his gun-boats. When he came within range of the rebel battery called Fort Clifton it opened on his boats. General Hinks brought his force into position in sight of the battery. The gun-boats replied with apparently some effect, but as the enemy occupied a very elevated position, he had a decided advantage.

The following messages passed between General Hinks and General Graham by signal, there being a signal sergeant with the latter officer:

1.30 P. M.

General HINKS:
Have you heard anything from Smith?

GRAHAM,
General.

General GRAHAM:
No.

HINKS,
General.

1.45 P. M.

General HINKS:
Will you send a battery to take that fort?

GRAHAM,
General.

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*Not found.

General GRAHAM:

I have sent a force, and will let you know what I can do when it returns.

HINKS,
General.

2 P. M.

General HINKS:

I can do nothing. One of my boats has had a hole put through her boiler already.

GRAHAM,
General.

4 P. M.

General GRAHAM:

The fort that opened on you is on the opposite side of the river from us, and commands this road as well as the river. It is impracticable to advance on this road. I shall fall back to the middle road and make a reconnaissance on that. Please keep a lookout on this road and prevent the enemy following on it.

HINKS,
General.

It was not necessary to direct the fire of the guns on General Graham's boat, as their range was not sufficient. There were no signal parties on the other boats. The shelling was continued two or three hours. We reconnoitered the enemy's position very thoroughly and came upon his works at several points. Having accomplished all that was possible, the force returned to City Point in the night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. B. PARTRIDGE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

Capt. LEMUEL B. NORTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

No. 7.

Report of Lieut. Harvey W. Benson, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, of operations June 2–30.

FLAG-SHIP MALVERN,
James River, July 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report operations for the month of June, while serving with the James River fleet, as of great importance to the fleet to enable them to learn of the enemy's movements, as pertains to naval operations and protecting the right flank of our forces; also in directing the fire of gun-boats and any attacking force that might assail the works on the right.

June 2, General Terry desiring the admiral to open fire on his front for practice and to get the ranges, &c., I went aboard the Onondaga. We fired at a range given by signal, the station at Battery No. 3 reporting to Curtis' house station, which station reported to my station. We fired 3 shots only and obtained range. I then returned to the flag-ship Agawam.

June 9, station on shore reported the enemy sending a gun-boat down the river, and on my report all was made ready for action.

June 13, the station at battery reported one of the rebel rams as moving down to attack us and others following slowly. The admiral sent me with iron-clad Tecumseh and we opened fire on the enemy, firing entirely by direction and range, &c., given by signal, and after firing a few shots the enemy retired up the river again out of sight.

June 15, the flag-ship went down the river to Fort Powhatan. I was in communication with four different stations of Army of Potomac and at night with the station at City Point, and returned to old anchorage at 11.30 a. m. June 16. The admiral changed his flag-ship to gun-boat Malvern 18th June. Changed station on the 19th to iron-clad and directed firing against rebel rams; and again, June 21, I took station on the iron-clad Onondaga, directed and reported shots by signals sent by Lieutenant Bruyn from shore from 10.30 a. m. until 5 p. m., the enemy having retired, when I changed to the Malvern again.

June 26, I was ordered to iron-clad Canonicus to remain until the flag-ship returned, and returned at dark; and again on the 28th instant I was ordered to Canonicus.

During the month I have sent over 100 official messages, and was constantly on duty either at signaling or practicing with 2 naval officers in order to assist me in case of any emergency. Said officers were first taught by Captain Howard while in the west. At the same time I was suffering with an illness which I had had for thirty days previous, reading and sending messages under a cross-fire from the battery above us and the rams in our rear, and received the thanks of all naval officers with [*sic*] for the prompt and great assistance which was rendered during the month by our system of signals. I would also like to report Private Sweet as a man entitled to a first class, he having proved himself as superior in watching and reporting enemy's movements from the masthead, and attention to duties and great care of signal equipments; and also that as the enemy's movements up the river cannot be seen from the vessels lying in the river, great importance is attached to the station in charge of Lieutenant Bruyn.

And hoping that my efforts meet with your approval, I am, &c., very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENSON,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

Capt. L. B. NORTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

No. 8.

Report of Lieut. Julius M. Swain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, of operations May 1–31.

HEADQUARTERS WILD'S BRIGADE,
Wilson's Landing, James River, Va., May 31, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I inclose herewith a transcript of the official messages received by me during the month of May, and with it the following report of my duties for the month:

From the 1st to the 4th instant I was in charge of the station at Fort Reno, on the line of the Portsmouth defenses. On the 4th instant I reported at Fort Monroe with my party, agreeable to your orders, and on that evening to General Hinks, who assigned me to duty with Brigadier-General Wild, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps. I immediately reported to General Wild on board the transport Wilson Small, in Hampton Roads. I had with me Privates Lathrop, Mott, Jonas, and Bell, two of whom and myself were mounted. On the morning of the

5th we found ourselves with the advance of the fleet, and landed at this point with the First and Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops. On the 6th instant I went with 2 of my men and a detachment of the First Colored Regiment to Sandy Point, where the enemy still retained their signal station. We captured the party, with their signal and other equipments and arms, and burned the station. On the 7th instant we went with a party to Lower Brandon and marched from thence to Mount Pleasant, where we burned another station, but found no men, as it had been abandoned the previous day. On the 10th instant Private N. C. Jonas was taken sick with inflammatory rheumatism. 13th instant, broke up another station at a point above Powhatan, on the north bank of the James and near Harrison's Landing. Here we captured one worthless glass and a barrel of turpentine, but the party with their guard were mounted and left on our approach. 17th instant, sent Jonas to Balfour Hospital, Portsmouth. 19th instant, Private Delaney reported for duty from Signal Camp, Camp Hamilton. 21st, our forces at Powhatan were attacked by cavalry, but notice of their approach and movements having been signaled to this post, General Wild, with one regiment, went to their relief, and the enemy were soon repulsed. 24th instant, Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee, with 3,000 cavalry, attacked this post fiercely, but after six hours of continued firing were repulsed with serious loss. During the attack I directed the fire of the gun-boats, and for over three hours of the time we kept communication open, under fire, with Powhatan, and were enabled to send all messages ordering re-enforcements from City Point and gun-boats from Powhatan. The enemy withdrew about 7 p. m., and the attack was not renewed. Most of the messages sent this day were received verbally from the general or his staff, and no record kept of them. We have continued communication between this point and Powhatan, but the distance, about 8 miles, all over water, renders it very necessary to have good glasses. Sergeant Walker has but an indifferent one, and I would respectfully apply for a good telescope for him, as many times he cannot distinguish my flag when his can be seen.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JULIUS M. SWAIN,
Second Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

Capt. L. B. NORTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

No. 9.

Report of Lieut. George F. Young, Fifth New York Heavy Artillery, Acting Signal Officer, including operations May 6–June 27.

SIGNAL CAMP NEAR GENERAL BUTLER'S HDQRS.,
In the Field, June 27, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following duties performed by me as acting signal officer while in charge of stations from the time of the landing of General Butler's force at Bermuda Hundred, Va., to the present date:

On the morning of May 6 I landed at Bermuda Hundred, and receiving instructions from Capt. L. B. Norton, chief signal officer, I immediately opened my station within a short distance of the

landing, on a station which was in use by the rebel signal corps up to the hour of our arrival. Communication was opened with signal party who remained with the general in steamer Greyhound, the same being in use by General Butler as his headquarters, and with signal station at City Point, Va., a distance between 2 and 3 miles, separated from Bermuda Hundred by the Appomattox River. During the time signal station was on the Greyhound, which was up to the 8th or 9th of May, communication was open from the general's headquarters through mine to station at City Point, where General Hinks was in command. During the time many important messages were received and transmitted for General Butler and the general commanding at City Point. On the [7th?] May our force at the landing was startled by an explosion which happened some few miles from the landing up the James River. At the time I received orders from Captain Norton, chief signal officer, by signals, to proceed up the banks of the James, find out all particulars concerning the explosion, and report the same on returning. Mounting my horse and taking flagman along I was soon on the banks of the James nearly opposite the spot, and I learned then that the explosion was caused by one of our gun-boats being blown up by the enemy. Not satisfied with this intelligence I started up the river, swung my flag, and almost instantly my call was answered by signal officer on board Admiral Lee's flagship. Through this signal officer on flag-ship I received from Admiral Lee for General Butler a long and very important message giving the account of the accident which happened at the time, of others, and news of much importance which Admiral Lee had obtained from prisoners and contrabands from Richmond. On or about the 7th General Butler moved his headquarters from the James River to near Point of Rocks. During this time communication between my station and City Point continued the same, and messages from City Point for General Butler were received the same and sent to the general's headquarters by mounted orderlies. My duties continued the same at this station to the 10th of the month. Orders received on the 10th to report at headquarters. The day following I was sent to Cobb's Hill signal station, near Point of Rocks, to relieve signal officer who was in charge, with orders from chief signal officer to keep communication open with City Point and on gun-boat on the Appomattox, headquarters of General Graham, besides making observations of the enemy around Petersburg, Va. I remained at this station several days, transmitting and receiving many important messages for the generals commanding, rendering them much service.

On the return of General Butler, with his force, from the front, I was relieved from duty on this station, and received orders to proceed to Fort Monroe to bring up stores and supplies for the detachment. On my return I reported at headquarters, and again received orders to take charge of Cobb's Hill station, while the signal officer who was in charge at the time accompanied General Smith on his expedition. On taking charge of station, communication was then open with City Point and on gun-boat on the Appomattox, including station at Spring Hill, on the opposite bank of the Appomattox. At this time many messages were received and sent, and nearly all orders from General Butler to officers commanding at Spring Hill and to General Graham on gun-boat were sent by our signals. On the morning of the 31st a message by flag was received from Colonel Ames, who was at the time in command of the force at Spring Hill,

that they were attacked by the enemy in heavy force. This message was delivered immediately after receiving, and others, which followed quickly, soon had re-enforcements under way to assist Colonel Ames in holding his position. The re-enforcement called for arrived in time to meet and drive the enemy back toward Petersburg, Va.

During the shelling by the enemy of the fort at Spring Hill and the signal station, Sergeant Garrett, who was in charge of the detachment at the time, was obliged to leave his station, but kept the flag working, sending the message, which was sent correctly, and then fixed station nearer the bank of the river, and there had the same communication with the commanding officer at that post. I continued in charge at Cobb's Hill station to the 3d of June, and received orders same day to turn over my command to Lieut. D. L. Craft, signal officer, and to take charge of signal camp near headquarters. On the 6th of June, by order of Captain Norton, chief signal officer, I received into my camp a detachment of 50 new recruits from Signal Camp of Instruction, at Georgetown, D. C. From this date to the present time my duties as acting assistant quartermaster for the detachment have kept me close at camp, attending to the stores, issuing clothing to the men, drawing forage and stores, making out returns, and tending to the wants of detachments in the field, besides the men in camp.

Before closing this report, I have to state that on the morning of the [9th] of June I received orders to take charge of tower signal station, near Point of Rocks, and report by signal to headquarters all intelligence I could gain by making observations in and around Petersburg of the enemy's movements and of our advanced forces, who were advancing toward Petersburg from our lines nearly opposite Fort Clifton. Shortly after commencing my observations General Butler, accompanied by a staff officer, came upon the station and made the desired observations himself. The general appeared pleased with the prospects and what little assistance I rendered him. About noon the enemy opened on the station with their guns from a masked battery and made several good line shots, though failed to do any damage whatever.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. F. YOUNG,

Lieut. Fifth Arty., New York Vols., Acty. Sig. Officer, and Acting Assistant Quartermaster Detachment.

Capt. L. B. NORTON,

Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

No. 10.

Report of Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, commanding Tenth Army Corps, of operations May 4–25.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,

Washington, January 24, 1866.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY,

Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of my report to General Butler of the operations of the Tenth Army Corps, while under my command in the Department of Virginia and North Caro-

lina, from the time of its arrival there on the 4th of May, 1864, until the 25th of that month. A subsequent report* of a demonstration by a detachment from the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps against the defenses of Petersburg on the 9th of June, 1864, was made to General Butler, and by him forwarded, as he officially informed me, to the War Department, where it will doubtless be found on file. I have been unable to find a copy of it among my papers, and presume it must have been left among the records of the Tenth Army Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. Army.

P. S.—Copies of the reports of Brig. Gens. Alfred H. Terry and John W. Turner are also transmitted herewith.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Brevet Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's, Va., May 25, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command since my arrival in this department on the 4th instant:

On that day my command embarked at Gloucester Point, and on the following day ascended the James River in rear of the Eighteenth Corps, commanded by Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith.

On the night of the 5th both corps effected a landing at Bermuda Hundred, and on the 6th advanced and took up the line we now occupy, extending from the James River to the Appomattox, my command being on the right. No enemy opposed our landing, and we encountered none in our advance. On the morning of the 7th three brigades from my command—Plaisted's from the First Division, Barton's from the Second, and Drake's from the Third—were ordered to report to General Smith, to take part in a demonstration against the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad. They reached the road and returned to camp the same evening. No general officer accompanied the force which I sent, and I have no report of the operations of these detached troops on that day. On the morning of the 9th, in accordance with the following order, I moved out with the balance of my command, striking the railroad at and to the southward of Chester Station:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Bermuda Landing, Va., May 8, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE:

You will take all your command but three brigades, which were detailed before, and demonstrate to the right and front, via Ware Bottom Church, upon the railroad, accomplishing its destruction at any place where you may strike it, and along as much of it as possible. The enemy are in our front with cavalry, 5,000 men, and it is a disgrace that we are cooped up here. This movement will commence at daylight to-morrow morning, and is imperative. Answer if you have received this order and will be ready to move.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

*See p. 287.

Brigadier-Generals Ames, Terry, and Turner commanded in person the troops drawn from their respective divisions. A portion of the Eighteenth Corps, under Major-General Smith, occupied the railroad on my left. A little before noon the whole command, except a portion of Terry's division left on the pike to guard the approaches from Richmond, moved to the left, and during the afternoon took up a position facing Swift Creek, which we found occupied by the enemy in considerable force. We found this creek impassable for any kind of troops. The bridges were all guarded by artillery and infantry, the latter occupying both banks of the stream. In the evening I met General Smith for the first time during the day. Upon conferring together we took the liberty to make the following suggestion to the major-general commanding:

SWIFT CREEK, *May* 9, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: We have conferred together upon the problem before us, and respectfully suggest, for your consideration, whether it would not be better, and secure to us greater advantages, to withdraw to our lines to-night, destroying all that part of the road this side of Chester Station which we left to-day, and then cross the Appomattox on a pontoon bridge that can be thrown across below General Smith's headquarters, and cut all the roads which come into Petersburg on that side. Such a bridge can readily be constructed in one night, and all the work of cutting the road and perhaps capturing the city can be accomplished in one day, without involving us in heavy losses. If we should remain here and be successful to-morrow, the roads coming into Petersburg on that side still remain intact, with the Appomattox between us and them, and we may even then be forced to adopt the plan we now suggest.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding Tenth Army Corps.
W. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps.

The following reply was received about midnight:

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Bermuda Hundred, May 9, 1864.

Maj. Gens. W. F. SMITH and Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Eighteenth and Tenth Army Corps:

GENERALS: While I regret an infirmity of purpose which did not permit you to state to me, when I was personally present, the suggestion which you make in your written note, but left me to go to my headquarters under the impression that another and far different purpose was advised by you, I shall [not] yield to the written suggestions which imply a change of plan made within thirty minutes after I left you. Military affairs cannot be carried on, in my judgment, with this sort of vacillation. The information I have received from the Army of the Potomac convinces me that our demonstrations should be toward Richmond, and I shall in no way order a crossing of the Appomattox for the purpose suggested in your note. If, as I believe, General Kautz has been successful, the communications of the enemy have been cut so far below Petersburg as to render the Lynchburg and Petersburg Railroad useless as a means of communication with the south, and if the Danville railroad is to be cut at all, it better be cut near Richmond on the south side in conformity with the plan agreed upon between the lieutenant-general and myself. Therefore, as early as possible, consistently with safety, you will withdraw your forces from Swift Creek, attempting in the first place to destroy the railroad bridge and then complete a thorough destruction of the railroad as we return to our position, with the intention of making a subsequent early demonstration up the James from the right of our position.

I have written you this note jointly, because you have agreed in a joint note to me.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Swift Creek, May 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: I have received your dispatch in reply to the note signed by General Smith and myself. That note contained simple suggestions, nothing more. It could not have contained any recommendation from me to change plans, as I did not know what the plan of operations was, further than to cut the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. Presuming that it was desirable to cut all the railroads leading out of Petersburg, I could see no better way to do it than the one proposed. I had had no opportunity to confer with General Smith, until I met him in your presence, and did not converse with him upon the nature of his instructions, or the objects aimed at, until after you had left. My orders from you were to destroy the railroad, and afterward, verbally, to support General Smith's movement on Swift Creek. Further orders from you regulating the movements of the two corps seem necessary. At Brandon Bridge the enemy have infantry and cavalry this side of the creek, and the approaches are open and covered by artillery on the other side. No practicable ford has been found yet. I am destroying the railroad near the junction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Our forces were withdrawn from Swift Creek during the forenoon of the 10th. Just before this movement commenced, a detachment from General Terry's division, left in rear on the Richmond pike, under Colonel Voris, Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, was attacked and nearly overpowered by a superior force of the enemy from Drewry's Bluff. General Terry, with a reserve force which had been stationed at Port Walthall Junction, hastened to Colonel Voris' assistance. The conflict was severe and sanguinary. The enemy were driven back with a loss of nearly 300 men, as acknowledged by themselves. Two pieces of artillery captured from us were recovered by a gallant charge of the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Rodman. The woods took fire from our shells, and many of the enemy's dead and severely wounded were consumed. General Terry held this position until after night-fall, when he was withdrawn to the intrenchments. Throughout the 11th the command remained within our intrenchments. On the morning of the 12th Brigadier-General Turner, with his division, reported to Major-General Smith to take part in a demonstration against the defenses of Richmond. Brigadier-General Ames, with most of his division, was posted at Port Walthall Junction to hold the approaches from Petersburg, while Brigadier-General Terry, with Plaisted's and Hawley's brigades of three regiments each, was conveniently posted a couple of miles in advance of our intrenchments. Colonel Howell, commanding First Brigade, Terry's division, was left in command of that portion of the Tenth Corps remaining in our works. On the afternoon of the 12th I moved with Terry's command and two regiments of Colonel White's brigade, Ames' division, up the pike, taking position on General Smith's left, Turner's division occupying his right next James River. The enemy was directly in our front behind Proctor's Creek.

ASSAULT OF WOOLDRIDGE HILL.

On the evening of the 12th I was ordered by Major-General Butler to move to the left on the following morning and turn the right of the enemy's intrenchments, located on the head of Proctor's Creek, west of the railroad. I moved accordingly with eight regi-

ments under General Terry, and Marston's brigade of three small regiments. I took one battery with me. Upon reaching the railroad at Chester Station, I divided my command, sending two regiments of infantry, under Colonel White, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania, with one piece of artillery mounted on a platform car, up the track to attack the works in front, while with the balance of the force under General Terry I made a wide detour of several miles by a blind road through the woods, so as to turn the works and take them in rear. About the time the head of Terry's column came in sight of the enemy's works, White's command had engaged them in front. General Terry opened upon the works with a piece of artillery, as soon as he got within range, as an indication to Colonel White that a position in rear of the enemy had been gained. We found the enemy in force and strongly intrenched, the extreme right of their line resting on Wooldridge Hill, a very commanding position about half a mile west of the railroad. The works had a return fronting the road on which Terry approached. General Terry was ordered to storm the hill while Colonel White engaged the enemy in front. The storming party recoiled under the severe fire brought to bear upon them, and while preparing for another assault in larger force, the enemy evacuated the position in haste, passing down their line of intrenchments toward Drewry's Bluff. We pressed them until dark, obtaining possession of about a mile of their line. The Third New Hampshire, Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton, behaved gallantly in this assault.

On the morning of the 14th I moved down the line of works and formed a junction with Turner's division, Tenth Corps, occupying at that time the left of General Smith's line. The enemy retired before us, leaving about 2¼ miles of their advanced line of intrenchments in our possession. During the 14th the enemy were pressed back into a second line of works, as formidable to all appearances as the first, diverging from it to the westward, with its right well refused. Where these two lines cross the railroad they are about a mile apart. From their general direction I judge the second to be but a branch of the first, forming a junction with it in front of Drewry's Bluff, near James River. Both lines are judiciously located, of great strength, naturally and artificially; have deep ditches on their exterior at all available points, and are arranged for defense by both infantry and artillery. Throughout the day and night of the 15th we lay before this line, the skirmishers on both sides being constantly, and the artillery frequently, engaged.

BATTLE OF DREWRY'S BLUFF.

Early on the morning of the 16th, under cover of a dense fog, the enemy made a fierce attack upon the right of General Smith's line, attempting to turn it. About 6.20 a. m. I received the following dispatch from Major-General Butler, dated 6 a. m.:

> The enemy has advanced from his works on our right and made a vigorous demonstration there; a rapid movement on the left would, I think, carry his lines in your front. Make it at once.

About 6.30 a. m. the enemy made an assault upon General Terry's front in force and were repulsed. At 6.40 a. m. I sent Major-General Butler the following dispatch:

> Your orders to charge the enemy's line will be obeyed as soon as the troops are ready. Terry has just repulsed an assault on his part of the line.

Two other assaults upon General Terry's front followed in rapid succession.

At 7.01 a. m. I sent General Butler the following dispatch :

There have been three assaults on General Terry's front; each has been repulsed handsomely. The assaults were in force. If I move to the assault and meet a repulse, our loss would be fearful.

About 7.15 a. m. I received your order to send a regiment then on its way to join me from the intrenchments to report to General Smith on his extreme right. I sent the order at once. At 7.40 a. m. a regiment was taken from Turner's line and sent to General Smith, and soon after two regiments from General Terry's division were also sent to General Smith. In the mean time General Brooks, commanding the division of the Eighteenth Corps next on my right, moved some of his troops to the right, and General Turner, commanding my right division, also moved to the right to close the gap. At this time the following dispatch was sent :

MAY 16, 1864—7.25 a. m.

General BUTLER :

I have just heard the report that General Brooks' right is turned and a 20-pounder battery taken. General Turner sends me the report. I am ready to assault, but shall wait until I hear from you, as I may have to support Smith. Please answer soon.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

The above dispatch was returned to me with the following indorsement :

No truth in report. Send regiment, and use discretion as to assault.

B. F. B.

The following order next came, without date :

As General Smith's right is attempted to be turned, we are moving to the right. Keep up the connection by moving to left (right).

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

Lieutenant Michie, of the Engineers, delivered to me a verbal order from the major-general commanding, as follows :

Move by your right flank so as to join on to General Smith's left, as the enemy are fighting us at Ware Bottom Church.

My whole command was soon in motion to the right. At 8.34 a. m. I sent a dispatch to the commanding general that my whole command was moving down the intrenchments as directed. I now determined to exercise the discretion left with me as to making an assault by throwing Terry's and Turner's divisions upon the flank of the enemy's column, then pressing back the right of General Smith's line. Orders to that effect were sent to Generals Terry and Turner, and their commands were soon in motion, as directed. Soon after this I received from you the following dispatch, without date :

General Brooks is falling back to his second line. Weitzel is also falling back. Press re-enforcements to the right. Those two regiments are not yet in sight. You must govern your line according to movements on your right.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

The withdrawal of Brooks and Weitzel on the right was soon confirmed, and the enemy had reached the brick house where General Smith had his headquarters in the morning. With two regiments under General Marston and the Fourth New Hampshire, then moving from the extreme left to the right, I formed a line in rear of the center of my position, covering the entrance to a road leading to the rear. This was accomplished, and General Butler informed at 9.30 a. m. About this time I received verbal orders to move to the pike and cover Smith's left. About 9.50 the following written order came:

9.30.

General GILLMORE.

The enemy is pressing around our right. Smith has fallen back to near Half-Way House. The enemy is near Dr. Howlett's. You must fall back, press to right, and get in rear of Smith's corps. He will try and hold his ground until you get in his rear and clear the road to the intrenchments, so that we may get back behind the defenses. Push vigorously.

By command of General Butler:

J. W SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

Smith will have to fall back and hold road in rear of his right. Gillmore must hold pike. Information is clear that they are pressing across river fast.

J. W. SHAFFER.

The staff officer who delivered the above order, when asked for an explanation of the last paragraph, said that the enemy was receiving re-enforcements from the other side of James River, and that it was feared that our retreat to the intrenchments would be cut off. The Half-Way House mentioned is a little more than half a mile in rear of the brick house occupied as General Smith's headquarters in the morning.

General GILLMORE:

Lieutenant Davenport reports no fighting at Ware Bottom Church, nor on our right. I sent him back to see and report. Hold the road to intrenchments at all hazards. I send Shaffer's dispatch. No prisoners have been captured but from the North Carolina brigades.

B. F. BUTLER.

Up to this time Generals Terry and Turner still held the front line along which their commands had moved by the right flank to keep up the connection with General Smith's left. They were both actively engaged under the orders to attack the enemy in flank, and could not withdraw quickly without great loss. A part of their commands not engaged had been sent to the rear. Peremptory orders to retire were at once sent to Generals Terry and Turner. The final withdrawal of the troops engaged began about 10.15 a. m., just as I received the following order:

IN FIELD—10 o'clock.

General GILLMORE:

The commanding general directs that you move to your right and rear of Smith to hold the turnpike. Smith pressing to his right to hold a road there. Smith can't move till you reach the turnpike. Get there at once. The troops at General Ames' old position at junction are forced back. If you don't reach the pike at once we must lose it or the short road on right of Smith. Press strongly. This is peremptory. We will lose turnpike unless you hurry.

By command of General Butler:

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

I reached a position on the pike in rear of the Half-Way House about noon, where I was informed that the entire command was to retire to our intrenchments. General Terry furnished the rear guard from his division. The enemy did not follow or annoy us, but on the following day established himself in our front and intrenched himself so as to cover the railroad. On the 20th a vigorous attack was made on my pickets and possession gained of the advance rifle-pits on General Ames' front, and a portion of General Terry's. General Ames attempted to recover his ground but failed. On General Terry's front the line was re-established by Colonel Howell's brigade, after a severe and sanguinary fight. Colonel Howell conducted the attack with great skill and gallantry. Our loss on that day was 702. The enemy acknowledge to a loss of 800, including Brig. Gen. W. S. Walker, wounded and taken prisoner. In the several actions from the 7th to the 20th, the Tenth Corps lost an aggregate of 3,387 in killed, wounded, and missing. The missing, about 800, were mostly killed or badly wounded in the battle of Drewry's Bluff.

To my division commanders and the members of my staff I am under obligations for most efficient co-operation and aid.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the Tenth Army Corps, May 5–June 12.**

May 5.—Corps proceeded to Bermuda Hundred, Chesterfield County, Va., and commenced disembarking.

May 6.—Completed disembarkation and commenced intrenchments near Ware Bottom Church.

May 7.—Action at Port Walthall Junction.

May 9.—Action at Swift Creek; destroyed portion of Petersburg and Richmond Railroad.

May 10.—Action at Chester Station.

May 13.—Outer line of works on Drewry's Bluff carried by Third New Hampshire and Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

May 16.—Repulsed repeated attacks of the enemy and retired to intrenchments; numerous skirmishes on the picket-line during the remainder of the month.

May 27.—Infantry of divisions of Generals Turner and Ames temporarily assigned to duty with the Eighteenth Corps, and reorganized by Major-General Smith, commanding.

June 1.—The Second and Third Divisions, accompanying command of Major-General Smith, moved to Cold Harbor and participated in that engagement.

June 12.—The Second and Third Divisions re-embarked at White House and rejoined the corps.

* From returns for May and June.

No. 11.

Report of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, of operations May 12–16.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH CORPS,
In the Field, Curtis', May 17, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit a preliminary and informal report of the operations of my division from the 12th to the 16th instant, inclusive:

On the first-named day, at about — o'clock, I received from the major-general commanding instructions to move with two of my brigades and two batteries out of the intrenchments and place them in support of the force which, under command of Major-General Smith, was moving up the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike, and by the bank of the James River. In obedience to this order, I reported to him on the old turnpike with Plaisted's and Hawley's brigades, each consisting of three regiments (the fourth regiment of each being at the time on picket), and with Warren's and Rockwell's batteries. During the afternoon my force was moved to and up the turnpike to Perdue's house, where it bivouacked for the night. While here Col. R. White, of the Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, with two regiments from Ames' division, viz, the Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers and the Fourth New Hampshire, by direction of General Gillmore, reported to me. In the morning of the 13th my force, under the immediate command of the major-general commanding the corps, moved to Chester Station, and thence by a long and circuitous route through the woods west of the railroad to a position in rear of the right of the first of the enemy's line of intrenchments defending Richmond from the south. At the station Colonel White's command was detached, and, accompanied by one piece of artillery, placed on a car by Captain Langdon, chief of artillery, proceeded up the railroad to attack in front, while the main body should turn the enemy's flank. After a painful and fatiguing march our main column arrived directly on the flank of the enemy's works. The Third Regiment New Hampshire Volunteers, under Lieut. Col. J. I. Plimpton, was then, by the order of the major-general commanding the corps, directed to make a detour still farther to our left, and gain the rear of the position. This was soon accomplished, and the regiment immediately attacked. The enemy's works were uninclosed, but were placed on a high, rounded ridge, and presented a bastioned trace fronting on and flanking the railroad. The works were defended by a formidable force, and when taken in reverse these threw themselves on the exterior slope of the parapet, and under its protection poured a deadly fire upon our troops. The Third New Hampshire charged up the hill in the most gallant and determined manner, and nearly reached the works, but the disparity of force was so great that they were ordered to fall back. They did so, leaving the ground covered with their men, having in a few minutes lost over 100 in killed and wounded.

As soon as the firing commenced, by order of General Gillmore, I took up the Seventh Connecticut and Seventh New Hampshire Regiments in support of the one already engaged, but before they were brought into action the enemy, threatened upon the front of the works by Colonel White's column and shelled by Langdon from the

railroad, abandoned their position. The night was passed upon the hill in the captured works. On the morning of the 14th Brigadier-General Marston, with three regiments of his brigade and the Thirty-ninth Illinois of my division, reported to me. During the night of the 13th heavy skirmishing took place on the railroad at the foot of the hill. In the morning I received and obeyed an order to move toward the turnpike and connect my right with the left of Turner's division. This movement brought my force directly in front of the enemy's second line of works. My division was formed in the following order, from right to left: Hawley's brigade on the right; then Plaisted's, White's, with its left on the railroad and a little retired, and later in the day Marston's, on the west of the railroad. My right and center was in a low, wooded, and marshy valley, directly in front of which arose the ridge upon which was placed the enemy's formidable chain of works, those in front of the right and center consisting of three heavy redoubts, connected by strong infantry parapets. On the left of the railroad was an equally strong redoubt, from which the line turning sharply to the north and flanking the road was visible for at least a mile. This chain, in all probability, extends to and rests upon Falling Creek. The remainder of the day and the following night were spent in active skirmishing with the enemy's advanced posts. On the morning of the 15th, Marston's command, consisting of three regiments of his brigade and the Thirty-ninth Illinois, was pushed forward in front of the redoubt on the west of the railroad in support of Rockwell's battery, sent to the same point, and Warren's battery was placed on the right of the road in front of White. The day was spent in skirmishing, in getting our batteries into position, and in a heavy cannonade upon the redoubt directly in front of my right. The enemy's sharpshooters and skirmishers were very annoying, and a strong effort was made to drive them in. For this purpose the first lines of Hawley's and Plaisted's brigades advanced in the most gallant manner up the hill, and secured a partially protected position within 300 yards of the works. This position was never afterward lost until orders were given to fall back, on the morning of the 16th, although several desperate charges were made upon it by the enemy. During the afternoon I was directed by the major-general commanding to examine the redoubt on my right, with reference to the practicability of taking it by assault. I did so, and reported that it was a strong work of high relief, and at least partially covered by an abatis; that an assault would in all probability sacrifice many men, with a doubtful result. Under the supposition that the redoubt directly in Marston's front was the extreme left of the enemy's line, I also examined the ground in that vicinity with reference to a turning movement similar to that by which we had obtained possession of the first line of works. This examination disclosed the existence of the chain spoken of above, and demonstrated the impossibility of the operation unless attempted by a large force moving on an arc of very considerable radius. During the afternoon one of General Marston's regiments was placed upon the hill captured on the 13th, with an outpost of four companies at Salem Church, on the Chesterfield road, and the First New York Mounted Rifles, under Colonel Onderdonk, which had reported to me, were directed to connect the church with Marston's left by a chain of vedettes. The Eleventh Maine Volunteers, of Plaisted's brigade,

which reported during the afternoon, were also sent to the hill. At night-fall the batteries were withdrawn from their advanced position and the infantry were directed to intrench themselves. Shortly after dark the enemy made a vigorous assault upon Hawley's front, but they were thrown back upon their works with equal vigor. The night passed quietly. At daybreak the next morning the fire of skirmishers commenced along my whole front and along the line to my right. This soon increased to a very heavy firing of musketry and artillery, and it became evident that the enemy, taking advantage of a dense fog to conceal the movement, was endeavoring to force our lines. I soon received orders from Major-General Gillmore to prepare for an assault upon the works, and also to send, to report to Major-General Smith, two of my regiments. The preparations for an assault were soon made, and the Seventh New Hampshire and the Eleventh Maine Volunteers were sent to the Half-Way House on the turnpike. While this was in progress, the enemy made three assaults on my right and center, leaping over their works, and advancing with great speed and determination. In each case they were driven back with great loss, having made no impression whatever on our lines. Soon after this detachment was made, I received from Major-General Gillmore information that he intended to move Turner's division and my own by the right flank toward the turnpike, and attack in flank that portion of the enemy's force who were pressing in that direction. He also directed me to leave a strong chain of skirmishers to conceal the movement. The execution of this order had just commenced and the regiments were on the march when General Gillmore again informed me that he had received orders to fall back to the rear of General Smith, and directed me to take the by-paths leading from our position to the turnpike near Proctor's Creek. This was at about 10 a. m. Scarcely had I received this order when the enemy again charged upon Turner's division and my right and center. For a moment their fire of artillery and musketry was very severe, but they were soon repulsed, and, as I must believe, with heavy loss. After this repulse I again received orders to move to the rear and gain the turnpike. This movement was effected with scarcely any molestation from the enemy. The Twenty-fourth Massachusetts and the Tenth Connecticut, of Plaisted's brigade, were sent to re-enforce the troops already at the Half-Way House. The Seventh Connecticut and Third New Hampshire, of Hawley's brigade, were put in position on a hill just in advance of Proctor's Creek, and the remainder of my command was formed near Perdue's house. I soon received instructions from Major-General Butler in person to take command of the troops at the Half-Way House, and to remain there until the whole of Brigadier-General Brooks' command, then retiring on the right, should have passed that point. While awaiting the passage of these troops, the enemy opened upon us with artillery at short range. Two sections of James' battery on our right immediately replied and soon silenced them. After the withdrawal of General Brooks' force, in obedience to my orders, the whole of my command was withdrawn and returned to the intrenchments. All these movements were effected in perfect order, and without confusion, and no words of mine can do justice to the calmness, firmness, and courage of the officers and men of my command. I shall take some other occasion to report the names of those who particularly distinguished themselves. I

regret to say that my loss is heavy, amounting to something over 1,300 men in the regiments of my division proper, without counting the commands of General Marston and Colonel White, from whom I have no returns.

I forward herewith nominal lists* of the killed, wounded, and missing.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

Itinerary of the First Division, Tenth Army Corps, May 4–June 9.†

May 4.—Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry took command of the division; embarked on steamers at Gloucester Point, Va., and proceeded to James River.

May 5.—Proceeded up James River to Bermuda Hundred and commenced disembarkation.

May 6.—Completed disembarkation and proceeded to near Ware Bottom Church.

May 7.—Three regiments of Third Brigade detached and, reporting to Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, participated in action near Port Walthall Junction.

May 9.—The First and Second Brigades moved on Petersburg and Richmond Railroad at Chester Station and Port Walthall Junction; Second Brigade in reserve at action on Swift Creek.

May 10.—Part of First and Second Brigades in action at Chester Station.

May 12.—The Second and Third and part of First Brigades engaged in movement on Drewry's Bluff.

May 13.—Outer line of enemy's works carried by Third New Hampshire and Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania, of Ames' division.

May 14 *and* 15.—Engaged from time to time with enemy in front of their works.

May 16.—Severely engaged with enemy, whose repeated attacks on the troops of the division were uniformly repulsed. In obedience to orders from Major-General Butler, retired to intrenchments.

May 20.—The enemy attacked the pickets in front of the division and in front of Ames' division. The picket-line was driven and the enemy occupied our rifle-pits. The line was afterward regained by a charge of the First Brigade, re-enforced by the Sixth Connecticut and One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers, of Turner's division.

At various times too numerous to mention during the month skirmishing took place on the picket-line in front of our intrenchments.

June 1 *and* 2.—Heavy skirmishing in front of intrenchments.

June 9.—Movement upon Petersburg, under command of Major General Gillmore, in which the Second Brigade took part.

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 13.

† From returns for May and June.

No. 12.

Report of Col. Joshua B. Howell, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 9–10

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 11, 1864.

SIR: In pursuance of instructions from division headquarters, directing from me a formal report of the operations of the different regiments of my command during the past two days, I have the honor to respectfully report that my brigade, consisting of the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell commanding; Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, Col. T. O. Osborn commanding; Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Col. A. C. Voris commanding, and the Eleventh Maine Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Spofford commanding (the last temporarily assigned to me in place of the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, Colonel Pond, being on detached service), was in line on the 9th instant (May) at 4.30 a. m., and proceeded with the division on the expedition. At a point on the line of march where a road leading to Ware Bottom Church diverged, it having been ascertained by the brigadier-general commanding the division that there were some of the enemy in that direction, and between that point and the church, the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers and Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers were ordered by the general, under the command of Colonel Osborn, to proceed toward the church and drive the enemy, which they did promptly. These two regiments took position at the church, in obedience to instructions, and remained there; and, in advance with the Sixty-seventh Ohio and Eleventh Maine, I proceeded with the main column of the division to the turnpike leading from Petersburg to Richmond. The Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, under command of Colonel Voris, was left in position on the turnpike at the brow of a hill, commanding a view of everything beyond them in the direction of Richmond. The position was gallantly held by the gallant colonel and his brave regiment—officers and enlisted men. The enemy were in force in front of them. With the Eleventh Maine I proceeded with the main body to the railroad. Beyond the Chester Depot and in the direction of Petersburg, I was ordered by the brigadier-general commanding the division to return to Ware Bottom Church, and take with me the Eleventh Maine and to assume command of all the troops at the church. I did so, arriving at that place the afternoon of the same day.

On the return of the regiment the enlisted men suffered greatly from the oppressive heat and fatigue of the march, which they bore with cheerfulness and fortitude, anxious to perform their duty faithfully; there was little or no straggling. On arriving at Ware Bottom Church and assuming command there, I discovered that the position taken for the troops had been judiciously selected and the pickets skillfully posted. I proceeded with Colonel Osborn at once to ascertain the localities around and about there; the whereabouts of roads and their convergences. I proceeded at once to make all further necessary arrangements to hold the position and make such other changes as I thought proper. Four pieces of Captain Langdon's battery reported to me in the evening.

In this connection I beg leave to adopt as part of my report extracts from the reports of Colonel Osborn and Lieutenant-Colonel

Campbell, of events which occurred prior to my assuming command of the forces at Ware Bottom Church:

From Colonel Osborn's report:

I was ordered by General Terry to proceed forward with the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers and Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers on the road on the right of our column to Bottom Church to form on the right and hold it until relieved by a column of cavalry. I at once threw forward the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers as skirmishers, the Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers supporting. At or near Bottom Church we met the enemy's pickets or skirmishers and drove them back beyond Dr. Howlett's house and there took our position until relieved by Colonel Howell, about 3 p. m., the most of my regiment remaining on picket. During the night following the rest of the regiment remained at the forks of the road leading to Richmond and Petersburg. During the night and day following the enemy's pickets or skirmishers often made their appearance. Shots were exchanged during our stay at the front. No casualties occurred in my command.

From Colonel Campbell's report:

I deployed the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers according to orders and pushed forward rapidly to the church, driving from there a company of rebel cavalry. As near as I discovered some of them were wounded by our fire, but none fell into our hands. Immediately on reaching the church General Foster, chief of General Gillmore's staff, rode up and ordered me to move my line of skirmishers forward at once. I pushed them forward accordingly until the right rested at Dr. Howlett's house, on the bank of the James River; there I halted, having driven the enemy into the woods beyond Dr. Howlett's. About 10 a. m. my line was relieved by the First U. S. Colored Cavalry. Just as this was accomplished, however, it was discovered to be a mistake, the cavalry having orders to proceed on up the road toward the Richmond turnpike. Colonel Osborn corrected this and relieved the cavalry with a part of the Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, and ordered me to take position in line of battle at the church. This position I held until Colonel Howell came on the ground, about 12 m., and assumed command. By his order I moved a little to the left and formed in line of battle abreast of the church and in support of Battery M, First U. S. Artillery. The main body of the regiment remained in this position until I received orders to return to camp. About dark on the evening of the 10th General Foster ordered me to send a detachment up the James River to destroy some torpedoes planted on the river by the rebels. I sent two companies, under command of Captain Hughes, of Company C, and for details refer you to his report accompanying this.

On the morning of the 10th, having ascertained from colored people that the enemy were coming down upon me in considerable force, I made additional arrangements to give them a warm and effectual reception; got my pieces in position, threw up breast-works and rifle-pits, and had all the roads approaching me well commanded. I had all my forces in line and well in hand. A stimulus to renewed and unusual efforts for preparations was given by a dispatch received from General Terry to the effect: "Your left is seriously threatened; hold it firmly, or you peril our safety." I would have held it firmly. About this time I opened communication with Colonel Voris. I believe the general saw afterward the means I had adopted to hold that place. I beg leave here to mention that on the morning of the 10th Captain Langdon, of the U. S. Artillery, reported to me in person, and I desire to speak in the highest terms of the skill, energy, promptness, and the valuable assistance which he, his officers, and the men of his command, afforded me.

Captain Warren, with his battery, and other officers with batteries, whose names I do not now remember, came to my support, and the same tribute is due to them. I do not recollect the hour, but some time during the forenoon, a dispatch from General Terry to the effect:

The rebels are strong in my front. Cannot you attack them in flank and rear? Do it at once if you can.

I at once ascertained the position of the enemy and commenced the attack. The wood and underwood was so thick between me and the enemy I had therefore to use great care that I might not fire on our own troops. The fire from my pieces was most rapid and beautiful. Officers and men attached to them deserve the highest credit for their skill and the anxiety they manifested to perform their duty. I have been gratified by the assurance that the fire was very effectual. The farther advance of the enemy ceased. At 5.30 o'clock in the evening I received an order from General Gillmore to withdraw my forces within the intrenchments, except a strong picket on the line which I then occupied, which I did. I take occasion to remark here that Colonel Barton reported promptly to me with his brigade. I desire here to speak in the highest terms of praise of the gallantry and firmness manifested by the regiments of my old brigade, including the Eleventh Maine, temporarily assigned to me, both officers and men. This will apply to all the other troops which composed my force. As Colonel Voris' command was made up largely of other forces besides his own regiment, and as he was acting exclusively under orders directly from corps or division headquarters, he has made his report* directly to you, which I respectfully transmit herewith. I beg leave also to transmit the report† of Captain Hughes with regard to torpedoes, referred to by Colonel Campbell.

I have the honor to be, captain, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOSHUA B. HOWELL,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

Itinerary of the First Brigade, First Division, Tenth Army Corps, May 4–20.‡

May 4.—Embarked on transports at Gloucester Point, Va.

May 5.—Left that place in the morning, and arrived at Bermuda Hundred, Va., same evening.

May 6.—Disembarked at that place and took the advance toward the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, the Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers leading in skirmishing order; bivouacked near the present line of intrenchments.

May 9.—Moved from the intrenchments toward Chester Station. The Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania and Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, under command of Col. Thomas O. Osborn, moved out as skirmishers on the right flank and advanced to Howlett's house. The Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, Colonel Voris, was advanced on the Richmond turnpike to cover our right, while engaged in destroying the railroad. The Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, Colonel Pond, was detailed, by order of General Butler, for duty at the post of Bermuda Hundred on the 6th.

May 10.—The Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers were attacked by the enemy in force, and steadily held the line until re-enforced and relieved by fresh troops. Same night the whole command returned

* Not found. † See p. 49. ‡ From return for May.

to their intrenchments. The brigade was left inside of the intrenchments, when our troops advanced to Proctor's Creek, Colonel Howell being left in command of the forces at the intrenchments.

May 15.—The Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers ordered by General Butler to convoy an ammunition train to General Gillmore, near Drewry's Bluff.

May 16.—The Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers engaged with the enemy; Col. T. O. Osborn severely wounded.

May 18.—The Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers engaged in battle of Proctor's Creek; Maj. S. S. Linton severely wounded. The regiment returned with the whole command to the intrenchments.

May 20.—The brigade ordered by General Gillmore to move out and retake the rifle-pits from which our line had been forced by the enemy, which was promptly done, and our lines re-established, with a total loss of 149 killed and wounded. Lieut. Col. O. L. Mann, commanding Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, severely wounded; since which time the brigade has been lying near the line of intrenchments, engaged in the ordinary fatigue and picket duties.

No. 13.

Report of Capt. Leroy A. Baker, Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry, of operations May 14–16.

HDQRS. THIRTY-NINTH ILLINOIS VETERAN VOLS.,
May 21, 1864.

In compliance with instructions from division headquarters, I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 14th instant the Thirty-ninth Regiment Illinois Volunteers was ordered to accompany a supply train to Half-Way, a station on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, where we arrived about noon. Colonel Osborn, then commanding the regiment, at once reported to General Gillmore for further instructions, and was assigned to General Marston's command on the extreme left of the line. We had some brisk skirmishing with the enemy during the afternoon, in which Colonel Osborn was wounded. On the morning of the 15th we received orders to intrench ourselves, and the Ninety-sixth Pennsylvania and Eighty-first New York Regiments were sent to our support, the three regiments forming the line running west from the railroad to the timber.

We had but little skirmishing during the day, and employed ourselves in digging a strong line of rifle-pits. The morning of the 16th we were well prepared for the fight. Early in the morning the Ninety-sixth and Eighty-first were taken from us to strengthen some other position, and we deployed so as to occupy the whole line. At 8 o'clock the enemy charged upon our works steadily and splendidly. We reserved our fire until they were within very short range. When we opened upon them they staggered, rallied, charged again, recoiled; then rallied and charged the third time. Our fire was too hot for them, however, and they fled in confusion, leaving the field literally covered with their dead and wounded. We now discovered that the forces had given back upon our right and were fighting nearly a mile in our rear. Our ammunition was entirely expended, there was no course left but to retreat. Collecting the wounded, we then fell back in order, receiving but a weak

fire from the rebels upon our flanks. On reaching the fort on Hospital Hill, we were ordered to the rear, and arrived inside of our present line of works at 9 p. m. We entered the fight with about 550 men; our losses were 122 killed and wounded. Among the killed were 2 captains and the adjutant; and the colonel, major, 1 captain and 2 lieutenants were wounded.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

LEROY A. BAKER,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

No. 14.

Report of Capt. Robert P. Hughes, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, of operations May 10.

BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA.,
May 11, 1864.

COLONEL: In accordance with your instructions, I proceeded with Companies C and H to destroy the torpedo station on James River. We proceeded without any opposition until within about 600 yards of the station, when the enemy's outposts opened upon our advance, to which we paid no attention and soon reached the station, but the firing of the outposts had been sufficient to alarm the agents of the station, for we found their supper on the table and everything denoted a hasty departure. Upon carefully searching, we found in the sand back of the house some rope; upon drawing it found it firmly attached to something, but the rope gave way without any explosion, much to our surprise. But we then discovered that the explosion was caused by using a galvanic battery. We then proposed to trace the course of the rope to the water's edge, and by that means draw the torpedo attached to the shore, but the rope giving way under ground we were again foiled. We then made search for signs of it at the water's edge, but none could be discovered. We then fired the buildings connected with the station, and an old building near by, and returned to camp without casualty, after an absence of one hour.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. P. HUGHES,
Captain, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

No. 15.

Reports of Col. Joseph R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 9–June 2.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report, concerning the part taken by this brigade in the movements of May 9 and 10, that the brigade—

consisting of the Seventh New Hampshire, Colonel Abbott; Seventh Connecticut, Lieutenant-Colonel Rodman commanding; Third New Hampshire, Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton commanding, and Sixth Connecticut, Colonel Duryee—left its bivouac near the James River about 7 a. m. May 9, following the First (Colonel Howell's) Brigade of this division. We moved to the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike, near the house of one Winfree, there halting some time; thence to Chester Station, halting again; thence down the railroad track toward Petersburg, between 12 and 2 o'clock of a very hot day, to a house just below the Port Walthall Junction. At this point, to my great regret, I was compelled by illness to turn over the command, with General Terry's consent, to Colonel Abbott, the next in rank, and the next morning to betake myself to camp. The labors of the brigade during the remainder of the 9th, and its efficient services in the engagement of the 10th, at Chester Station, will be found recounted in the report* of Colonel Abbott, which I forward herewith, adding only that the aggregate loss was 51.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Colonel Seventh Connecticut, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred Intrenchments, Va., May 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report for the information of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry, commanding division, the movements and labors of this brigade from May 12 to May 16, inclusive, being the part they took in the advance of the Eighteenth and Tenth Corps toward Drewry's Bluff:

The brigade left its camp near the line about to be fortified about 3 a. m. May 12, and consisted of the Seventh Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Daniel C. Rodman commanding, 21 officers and 610 men; the Seventh New Hampshire, Col. Joseph C. Abbott, 24 officers and 330 men, and the Third New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Josiah I. Plimpton commanding, 26 officers and 700 men. Total, 71 officers and 1,640 men. The Sixth Connecticut, Col. Redfield Duryee, was on picket, but came up the next day, under Lieutenant-Colonel Meeker, and was placed in Colonel Alford's brigade, of General Turner's division, where it remained during the expedition. My brigade followed Colonel Plaisted's (the Third), of this division. Moved to the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike, near Chester Station; turned northward and bivouacked at Perdue's house, furnishing 300 men for picket duty. Two men of the Seventh Connecticut were wounded on picket. About 6 a. m. of the 13th we left the turnpike and crossed the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad at Clover Hill Junction, moving to the northwest by obscured and concealed paths and roads to a fine public road north of Salem Church; thence we turned sharply to the right, following a portion of the Third Brigade, toward the rear of the right of the rebel line of earth-works, which stretched from the James River, in front of Fort

* Not found.

Darling, westerly across the turnpike and railroad. The right of these works is protected by a creek and swamp running from southwest to northeast close by them. Our road crossed the creek and passed close under the elevation crowned by the right of the works. Skirmishers of the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts, Colonel Osborn, were ahead of us as we approached the swamp. The Third New Hampshire was here detached and ordered to the left, some distance down the creek, to cross it by a broken bridge, and assault the works in the rear.

Having the Seventh Connecticut and Seventh New Hampshire deployed on the right and left of the main road, facing the swamp, I was ordered to charge the work visible over the causeway across the swamp, the narrow road passing right under the works, which were on a considerable elevation. Major Brooks, of Major-General Gillmore's staff, having just reported the morass impassable, I reported the fact to General Terry, who immediately ordered me to follow and support Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton, who by this time had become fiercely engaged. Moving in the direction of the sounds, I brought the regiments into column in an open field, and they hurried forward with enthusiasm. As we neared the road by which the Third New Hampshire crossed the swamp, we met Major Randlett, of the Third New Hampshire, and a large number of the Third coming back wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton soon appeared, reporting that his regiment was in danger on his left flank, on which the enemy appeared to be coming. The Seventh New Hampshire was ordered across the creek, and it went over and up through the strip of woods, where it formed on the edge of the field, covering the Third, which had met largely superior forces, and after a most gallant fight, having advanced up the field to a house and outbuildings, forcing the enemy to jump over their works and fight from the front of them, had been forced to retire. The Seventh Connecticut was about to follow the Seventh New Hampshire across the swamp, when it being reported that the work was apparently inclosed (a re-entering portion of it having certainly that look from the rear), and that forces were moving to attack the left flank of our column, the Seventh Connecticut was a little withdrawn, and moved off in line to meet such force. The Third New Hampshire, which had met at least one brigade (some prisoners reported two), had lost about 140 in a few minutes, and had taken 10 prisoners, was called back across the creek to reform. While my commanding officers halted a moment for consultation, and to discover the suspected movement against our flank, it was learned that Colonel White, of the Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania, with that and the [Fourth New Hampshire] regiment coming up the railroad upon the front of the works about the time of our attack, had caused their evacuation and had entered a portion of them. We immediately moved over, and occupied half a mile of the right of this most important line. I threw out four companies of the Seventh Connecticut as a picket-line on the north, under Captain Mills, and sent the Seventh New Hampshire down into a wood on the north side of the works to the railroad, to feel of a rebel light battery in sight toward the east, on the line supported by some infantry. Being unable to continue the movement beyond the railroad, they formed a good picket-line connecting with Captain Mills from which they were relieved at 10 p. m. by the Tenth Connecticut. Colonel Abbott's demonstrations, with those of the Third Brigade

and Langdon's artillery, drove the rebels out of sight, and the night passed (with a little sleep) in hastily strengthening our position.

In the morning General Turner's division appeared in the southeast, approaching the front of the works, whose right we had carried. Under orders I moved down, joined my right to the left of that division, and facing toward Richmond, advanced with the rest. I put in line the Seventh Connecticut and Seventh New Hampshire, with the Third New Hampshire in column doubled on the center, at half distance, in reserve. Advancing down the slope in an open field just east of ——— house, I sent forward skirmishers of the Seventh Connecticut, who were soon engaged. They moved through the wood about 200 yards to another field. Up a gentle slope about 400 yards distant was a fine house with garden fences and outbuildings, and beyond that nearly 400 yards, a formidable line of earth-works extending far eastward, and apparently well manned. I advanced my line to the line of skirmishers on the north edge of the woods, whence there was a steady interchange of shots with the rebels occupying the houses, and even with those of the main works. Their artillery also endeavored to annoy us. A number of our men were killed or wounded. At my solicitation a piece of artillery was sent to me from which two shots were fired (the first aimed by myself) at the buildings. A shower of rifle-balls coming back the piece retired; the dwelling and one large outbuilding were soon in flames. The skirmishers of the division being ordered forward, I ordered mine from the Seventh Connecticut, under Captain Dennis, and they went up very handsomely under a heavy fire, so hot that it was necessary to relieve them two or three times. They drove the enemy out of the buildings, but lost heavily. Promptly on receiving an order to that effect I advanced with my line of battle, the two regiments moving in the finest style, with great cheering, up to the buildings and the summit of the slope. The Third New Hampshire followed to the edge of the wood. The line was but slightly protected, though the men worked with their usual ingenuity, and the fire from the works, both artillery and infantry, was at times very severe. The field pieces were frequently silenced, but they inflicted some injuries, among them fatally wounding a most gallant officer, Lieutenant Wood, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers.

On my right and left, so far as I could see, the rest of the corps had advanced only a strong skirmish line, even with our position. As the day wore away tediously, I received orders to hold this position, relieving at dark. When it was nearly dark, the enemy opened suddenly on us the most furious fire of musketry to which I ever listened. Without flinching, our two regiments as fiercely responded. The enemy began to come over their works to charge, but the fearful fire of our lines (the Spencer carbines here worked to good advantage) staggered and drove him back. The affair lasted scarcely two minutes, when the enemy ceased firing and became altogether invisible amid the most triumphant cheers from our side. After dark I had the Third New Hampshire come silently up the slope in line and step into the positions of the other two regiments, which moved by the right of companies to the rear as silently to the south side of the wood, where they drew rations and bivouacked. The losses this day were: Seventh Connecticut, 92; Third New Hampshire, 8; Seventh New Hampshire, 17; total, 117; of which 17 were killed and 2 missing.

The Third New Hampshire was furnished with a few shovels, and they very much strengthened their position. The night of the 14th and the day of the 15th wore slowly away with much picket-firing, particularly on our right, and frequent calls to arms. The Third New Hampshire lost 3 men killed and 5 wounded during the day. At night it was relieved by the Seventh Connecticut, under Major Sanford, the soreness of Lieutenant-Colonel Rodman's old wound and his exhaustion having compelled him to relinquish command on the evening of the 14th. At daylight on the morning of the 16th, there being an extremely dense fog, very heavy firing suddenly opened on our right in the direction of the Eighteenth Corps. I moved the Third and Seventh New Hampshire forward to the north edge of the wood in support of the Seventh Connecticut. Major Sanford had a few men in advance, who reported the enemy coming. It was not until it was within 50 or 75 yards that the enemy's line became visible through the fog. The Seventh Connecticut opened an astonishingly rapid fire, lasting but a minute or two, and ceasing promptly at the bugle-call. The enemy was silent and invisible, and the brigade cheered most vehemently. With considerable intervals of time twice again the enemy made similar attempts, with the same results and the same exultations from our men. The enemy got down upon Sanford's right flank and began to enfilade his pits. I opened communication with Colonel Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts, next on my right, armed with Spencer carbines, and he advanced a portion of his command most handsomely, driving the enemy back (though at the cost of some men), and removing the danger, for which we gratefully thank him. By order of General Terry, I sent the Seventh New Hampshire to the Half-Way House, on the turnpike, to report to General Smith and protect our communications. It lost there 1 officer and 3 men wounded by the mistaken fire of the Eighteenth Corps. It did not report to me again until it had returned to camp. Colonel Abbott had the Tenth New Hampshire with him then, and later in the day, being alone and seeing the enemy approach, Colonel Plaisted, with the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts and Tenth Connecticut, were sent to his support for a short time. The fog began to lift after 7 o'clock. I was ordered to prepare for an assault, or at least to make the appearance thereof. The Seventh Connecticut having no bayonets, I moved the Third New Hampshire up the slope to just in the rear of the Seventh Connecticut, arranging that when the proper time came the latter should open a furious fire, the Third charge, and the Seventh either follow the success or stand fast to check the repulse. Major Sanford threw forward a few sharpshooters, though but little could be done in that way. My next order was to leave a strong line of skirmishers to hold the position and fall back through the woods, concealing the movement. The latter was impossible, and Major Sanford reported that he could hold his place against all attacks, but to do it he must have his whole regiment. The Third New Hampshire came rapidly back, partially protected from the hot fire which followed it by the return sent from the Seventh Connecticut. In obedience to another order, I directed Major Sanford to let his skirmishers follow him, covering his rear. He had detailed nearly 150 to stay in the pit. Not all heard the order to follow back, and the enemy immediately coming over their works when the battalion left the pits, the gallant rear guard, resisting them fiercely, lost very heavily in killed, wounded, and captured. The Third New Hamp-

shire passed the woods, reformed, moved across the field, halted, and faced the enemy, a portion of the Third Brigade being on its left and General Turner's division on its right. As the Seventh Connecticut came up, I placed it in rear of the Third to close its ranks. The enemy soon appeared, coming through the belt of woods, often referred to, in fierce pursuit, and opening a violent fire. The Third New Hampshire advanced to meet them, returned and silenced their fire, turned them back, drove them to the woods, captured a lieutenant-colonel and major and 15 men, and strewed the ground with killed and wounded. Few feats of valor have been more handsomely performed than this was. Sending the Seventh Connecticut back a short distance, under General Terry's order, before I could get the Third New Hampshire to join them, I received an order from Major-General Gillmore to fall back half a mile to a hill, where an ice-house stood, and hold the position. Arriving there with the Seventh Connecticut, Brigadier-General Foster, chief of staff, put the Ninety-sixth New York under my command, and I put the two in line. The Third New Hampshire soon came up. In an hour or two the Ninety-sixth was restored to its own brigade, and we followed the Third Brigade of this division to the turnpike, halting once and facing the enemy for an hour, and then down the turnpike to Perdue's house again. After another halt in line, we went forward again to the position of the last preceding halt to cover the retreat of Colonel Plaisted with the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts, Tenth Connecticut, and Seventh New Hampshire. When they passed us and took position we again started, this time continuing to our camp, which we reached about 8 p. m., having conducted the retreat leisurely and in good order.

I have nothing but words of the highest praise for the three regiments under my command upon this expedition. It so happened that the Seventh New Hampshire lost least, but when sent twice where severe loss appeared probable, its conduct was admirable. In charging up the slope to the burned house on the 14th, and in repelling the savage assault that evening it won high praise. Colonel Abbott and Lieutenant-Colonel Henderson proved themselves able and brave soldiers. The Third New Hampshire covered itself with glory in the two brilliant performances which I have noted, though at sad cost. Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton and Major Randlett are all that any commander could ask in any emergency. The Seventh Connecticut also lost heavily; nothing could be finer than the undaunted spirit with which three or four of its companies as skirmishers took the house on the 14th, or with which the whole battalion met four fierce assaults. Lieutenant-Colonel Rodman, Major Sanford, and Captain Dennis, acting field officer, won most cordial praise.

I trust that a grateful country will remember the many glorious patriots whose names I cannot here mention who suffered or died so cheerfully for the good of their country and mankind.

Permit me to name my staff, who all labored faithfully and fearlessly throughout: First Lieut. E. L. Moore, Seventh Connecticut, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. John Van Keuren, Seventh Connecticut; Lieut. Heber J. Davis, Seventh New Hampshire, severely wounded on the 14th; Lieutenant Hanson, Seventh New Hampshire, brigade quartermaster, and Lieut. W. T. Seward, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, commissary.

The losses of the brigade during the expedition were as follows:

Near Drewry's Bluff, May 12 to 16, 1864, both inclusive.

Regiments.	Killed		Wounded		Missing		Aggregate	
	Officers	Men	Officers	Men	Officers	Men	Officers	Men
7th Connecticut Volunteers	1	26		95	1	67	2	188
8th New Hampshire Volunteers		1		5		1		7
3d New Hampshire Volunteers	3	32	4	164		15	7	211
Total	4	59	4	286	1	83	9	428

Adding one of my staff not elsewhere reported, the aggregate is 437, or over 25 per cent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Col. Seventh Connecticut Vols., Comdg. Brigade.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred Intrenchments, Va., June 3, 1864.

SIR: I beg leave to report concerning the attack made on the picket-line in front of my position yesterday morning, June 2:

Each brigade furnishes daily one regiment for outpost duty in its immediate front.

June 1, at sunset, I sent out the Seventh Connecticut, Major Sanford, numbering 324 enlisted men, for twenty-four hours' duty. Immediately in my front the line is across an open field a few hundred yards in front of the breast-work. As it entered the cover of the woods on the right it turned abruptly to the left and front perhaps 10 yards, and then turned again more to the right. On the portion running to the front Companies C and H were posted, and Major Sanford and Captain Dennis, senior captain, made their headquarters near there. The line was very long, and the reduced regiment could save little or nothing for reserves. On the left of the open field the line ran into rough woods, broken by ravines. In many places it was exceedingly difficult to go from post to post, and the underbrush and fallen trees rendered it impossible to fall back quickly. The line had frequently been reported as very dangerous. About 7 a. m. of the 2d the enemy, whose line and pits were only from 20 to 150 yards distant from our own, made a nearly simultaneous attack upon the whole line of the Seventh Connecticut, in some places advancing with a close line of skirmishers, in others dashing through in more force. Companies C and H were almost instantly cut off by a superior force and a large portion of them captured. The remainder, falling back, joined the left of the Thirty-ninth Illinois, the regiment next on their right, and under Sergeant Burgess did excellent service in the picket fighting of the day. On the left of C and H Captain Bacon was in command of a portion of the line. He handsomely repulsed the attack in his direct

front, but after a time, being unable to communicate with Major Sanford, then seeing men taken to the rear as prisoners by the enemy, then hearing that the major was captured, and seeing the ground on his right and even in the rear thereof held by the enemy, where they could enfilade him, he gave the order and with a considerable number went rapidly back. As soon as I could communicate with him (General Terry being present and supervising all the movements), I sent him, afterward changing the order to include only Lieutenant Wildman and 40 men, to the Redan No. 2, in front of Battery 3 (unfinished and unoccupied), which overlooked and commanded the point of woods, and, so far as the trees did not forbid, the ground where Companies C and H had been, near which the rebels were busily digging a new line. Lieutenant Wildman immediately opened a lively fire upon them. In the mean time the enemy had in a similar manner attacked our left in the woods and captured 18 men of Company B and a few others. Company E held fast for the most part, and Captain Perry held without interruption the left of the field, repelling the enemy's attack. I sent two companies of the Third New Hampshire down there to re-enforce the Seventh Connecticut. A detachment of Colonel Spear's dismounted cavalry came to our assistance, as did Captain Pride, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, with some of his forces belonging in Redan No. 3. He was also ordered to open with canister or grape on the woods directly in front of him, which he did. The enemy's forces on that side then appeared to be the Twenty-second South Carolina, for in this combined resistance Colonel Dantzler was killed, a number of his men killed and wounded, a lieutenant and 23 men captured, and the rest repulsed. I sent all that remained of the Seventh Connecticut to the left, where the broken parts of the line were re-established, and directed them to work their way on the old line to the right as fast and far as possible. Captains Thompson and Perry and Lieutenants Barker and Merriam were there. On the right Batteries 3 and 4 shelled the point of woods whence C and H were taken with great vigor. Under the general's orders, I sent Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton, with the remainder of his regiment (Third New Hampshire), to retake that ground, where the enemy must have been exceedingly uneasy under the combined artillery and infantry fire directed upon them. Colonel Plimpton went well around to our right of the disputed ground, dashed suddenly in, and drove the rebels out instantly, capturing 38, and killing and wounding a number. His men and the Seventh Connecticut soon joined across the field, and the whole of my old line was re-established. The faulty line of the brigade on my right was permanently retired, and the final result was a correction of the whole, making it much better.

Of course, I painfully regret the occurrences of the day, but I have no facts which lead me to censure the officers or men of the Seventh Connecticut. The picket-line of the whole division was apparently attacked. The ground and the crooked line were a constant temptation to the enemy to make just such a dash upon the disconnected posts and thinly scattered men.

The enemy suffered heavily in killed and wounded besides losing nearly as many prisoners (60), though he had all the advantage in his opportunity to strike suddenly and heavily and withdraw.

The Seventh Connecticut had Capt. C. C. Mills (one of the bravest of men) shot through the right lung; Lieut. W. S. Marble,

shot through the right shoulder; Lieut. Byron Bradford, slightly wounded; 3 enlisted men killed and 1 fatally wounded, 9 wounded, and 4 officers and 79 men missing. The missing officers, Major Sanford, Captain Dennis, Lieutenant Pierce, and Assistant Surgeon Shepard, are prisoners, unhurt. Of the 79 missing 6 are known to be wounded prisoners. Aggregate loss, 99. Captain Mills, Lieutenant Marble, and Captain Perry deserve special mention for bravery. Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton and his Third New Hampshire fully maintained their position in the very highest class of soldiers. Colonel P. makes special [mention] of Captain Maxwell's good conduct. Loss, 2 killed and 8 wounded.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Colonel Seventh Conn. Vols., Commanding Brigade.

Capt. A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division.

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the Second Brigade, First Division, Tenth Army Corps, May 1–June 9.**

This brigade was reported last month at Gloucester Point, Va., as consisting of the Seventh Connecticut and Seventh and Third New Hampshire Volunteers.

May 2.—The Sixth Connecticut was assigned to the brigade and reported for duty.

May 4.—In common with the whole Tenth Corps the brigade embarked on transports, steamed up the James River, and landed at Bermuda Hundred.

May 6.—Marched about 8 miles and bivouacked until the 9th without meeting the enemy.

May 9.—The brigade marched to Chester Station and assisted in destroying the railroad; thence the same day proceeded to Walthall Junction in the direction of Petersburg; formed that night the reserve before Swift Creek.

May 10.—The brigade was engaged in the morning destroying the railroad track, and afterward marched hurriedly to a point near Chester Station, where the enemy was encountered in considerable force, but was repulsed and driven back after a short but severe fight. Brigadier-General Terry, commanding First Division, personally directed the operations.

May 13 *to* 16.—The brigade was engaged in the several battles in the neighborhood of Palmer's Creek. The entire loss of the brigade during the four days exceeds 500. Since the withdrawal of the troops to the intrenchments the brigade has been occupied constantly on picket or fatigue duty.

During the month the brigade was occupied mainly on the line of intrenchments near Bermuda Hundred.

June 2.—The picket-line held by the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers was violently attacked and that regiment lost severely. The Third New Hampshire, by whose aid the line was regained, suffered loss.

June 9.—The brigade participated in the reconnaissance toward Petersburg.

* From returns for May and June.

No. 16.

Report of Col. Redfield Duryee, Sixth Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 9–10.

HDQRS. SIXTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,
In the Field, May 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report regarding the part taken by this regiment in the operations of May 9 and 10, 1864:

On the morning of May 9, pursuant to orders from Col. J. R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, commanding brigade, this regiment took up line of march and proceeded in the direction of the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, and reached said railroad at the station 14 miles south of Richmond. From that point the line of march was directed along the railroad toward Petersburg until the regiment reached the point where the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike crosses the railroad 16 miles from Richmond. Here a halt was ordered and the regiment rested about two hours in the field near the building occupied as a temporary hospital for the division.

From this point the line of march was toward Petersburg along the turnpike for the distance of about 1 mile to support a light battery. Remained at that post until night-fall, when orders were received to return to the railroad and bivouac for the night.

At 8 a. m. on the 10th instant the regiment, by orders from brigade commander, formed in line and destroyed a portion of the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad. I then proceeded with my regiment along the turnpike in the direction of Richmond to the distance of about 2 miles, when our advance was attacked by the enemy in force.

By the order of General Terry the regiment marched by the flank through the woods on the west side of the turnpike and formed line of battle in an open field about one-half mile west of the turnpike; advanced in line across a road running at right angles with the turnpike and entered a piece of woods to support a regiment which was engaging the enemy, when orders were given for the regiment then engaged to retire in order to give me an opportunity to open fire upon the enemy. A portion of the left wing of my command mistook the order and fell back out of the woods and formed on the opposite side of the road in rear. The right wing remained in line and repulsed the attack.

As soon as the enemy ceased firing and retreated the regiment, by orders from brigade commander, formed in line of battle in the open field to support a light battery. From this position orders were given for the regiment to retire. Returned to camp about 8 p. m. the 10th instant. All the officers behaved in a most satisfactory manner, and with very few exceptions the enlisted men conducted themselves well.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

REDFIELD DURYEE,
Col., Comdg. Sixth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers.

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,
A. A. A. G., Second Brig., First Div., Tenth Corps.

No. 17.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Daniel C. Rodman, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 9–14.

HDQRS. SEVENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLS.,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 11, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the part taken by my command in the action at Chester Station, Va., on May 10, 1864, as follows:

Left camp at Bermuda Hundred at 4 a. m. on the 9th instant, with 2 field, 2 staff, 1 acting adjutant, 1 acting regimental quartermaster, 17 line officers, and 720 enlisted men, and moved directly on to the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad at Chester Station, passing up the railroad to Grove Hill Station, and was held in reserve to the Eighteenth Corps, who were engaging the enemy on the left and in front of Pocahontas. At about 9 p. m. was ordered back to a position at the junction of the turnpike and railroad to protect the rear, where we bivouacked for the night. At about 7 o'clock on the morning of the 10th the brigade, of which we formed a part, was ordered to move both ways on the railroad, destroying it and the telegraph, the right wing moving upon the turnpike to destroy the telegraph, the left on the railroad to protect the Sixth Connecticut Volunteers while destroying the railroad. The right wing, under my command, had proceeded about 1½ miles destroying the telegraph, when we were ordered forward at a quick pace. Arriving at the top of the hill to the right of and near Chester Station, we were ordered into line of battle on a road leading from the right of the turnpike, and immediately threw out Company D, under command of Captain Townsend, as skirmishers. We were soon joined by the left wing under Major Sanford. Two companies (E and H), under Captain Dennis, were immediately sent to support a battery upon a hill a little in front of our line. I then ordered Major Sanford, with Companies B and K, to proceed to the top of the hill and engage the enemy.

I was ordered to take the remaining companies (A, C, F, G, and I) and cross to the left of the turnpike to support the line upon that side, which was being fiercely engaged. I was then ordered to send three companies, under Captain Bacon, to the right of the turnpike, where they engaged the enemy's skirmishers and drove them back.

I cannot speak too highly of the conduct of both officers and men under my command during the entire engagement. Great credit is due to Surgeons Jarvis and Hine for their efficiency.

Appended is a list of casualties.* Accompanying this is Major Sanford's report† of the detachment under his command.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. C. RODMAN,
Lieut. Col. Seventh Connecticut Vols., Comdg. Regt.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjt. Gen. U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

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* Nominal list (omitted) shows 8 enlisted men wounded and 1 enlisted man killed.
† See p. 61.

HDQRS. SEVENTH REGT. CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 17, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report the part taken by my command in the actions of May 12, 13, and 14:

Left camp at 3 p. m. on the 12th with 21 commissioned officers and 610 enlisted men, having the right of the Second Brigade (First Division, Tenth Army Corps), Colonel Hawley commanding, moved out on the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike in the vicinity of Chester Station, at Perdue's plantation, threw out 150 men as pickets, and bivouacked for the night. Two of the pickets were wounded during the night.

Put under arms at about 6 a. m. on the 13th and moved on to the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad and Clover Hill Junction, moving on about 8 miles to the right and rear of the enemy's intrenchments, where we supported the Third New Hampshire Volunteers, who were engaging the enemy and driving them out of their works. We bivouacked in their intrenchments for the night, having four companies on picket. On the morning of the 14th, at about daylight, Major Sanford moved forward with five companies, supporting the left of Turner's division, who was advancing on the enemy. About 7.30 a. m. the other five companies moved forward, joining Major Sanford's command, and formed in line of battle at the foot of the hill in the woods, where the enemy were in strong position at the top of the hill in earth-works. A strong line was thrown out as skirmishers, under command of Captain Dennis, where they fought desperately for two hours, expending all their ammunition and the fresh supplies sent. Several men were badly wounded lying in the line of battle. First Sergeant English and Sergeant Ripley, of Company H, and First Sergeant Keys, Company A, behaved with great gallantry. Sergeant English had been hit in the foot, which made him quite lame, but he persisted in moving forward. About 3.30 p. m. the line, Colonel Hawley commanding, was ordered forward on the charge, going up with the Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers on their left, the Third New Hampshire in reserve, to the summit of the slope, where a house had been burned, forcing the enemy to take to their earth-works, about 400 yards in front, leaving us in possession of the top of the hill, where fighting continued at intervals until dark. Just about dark the rebels opened a furious fire and charged from their works with desperation. We opened for about a minute and a half with the full rapidity of the Spencer carbine. The rebel fire was completely subdued and the charge repulsed. The regiment being relieved by the Third New Hampshire Volunteers, we retired to their rear and bivouacked for the night.

The conduct of the officers and men under my command was, without a single exception, deserving of great praise. They distinguished themselves throughout by their gallantry. I would make special mention of Lieut. Charles A. Wood, who was mortally wounded.

Inclosed is a list of casualties:* Killed, 14; wounded, 76; missing, 2; total, 92.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. C. RODMAN,
Lieut. Col. Seventh Connecticut Vols., Comdg. Regt.

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,
A. A. A. G., Second Brig., First Div., Tenth Corps.

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 13.

No. 18.

Reports of Maj. Oliver S. Sanford, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 10 and 16.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 11, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the part taken in the late action by the companies under my command, as follows:

After leaving the regiment on the morning of the 10th, with the left wing of the command I moved up the railroad toward Chester Station, covering the Sixth Connecticut Volunteers, who were destroying the railroad. I remained there nearly an hour, when I was ordered to the turnpike to join the left of the column. I pushed forward at a rapid pace, arriving just as the right wing had gone in line of battle to the right of the turnpike. I was ordered to send two companies (E and H), under Captain Dennis, forward to support a battery. The three remaining were joined to the regiment. You then ordered me forward with two companies (B and K). I proceeded to the top of the hill, where I was joined by Captain Dennis with the two companies under his command. I threw the right of my line a little forward and opened fire upon the left flank of the enemy, stationed in the woods, and drove them back. We engaged the enemy at intervals, who was trying to take a piece of artillery which had been abandoned by the Fourth New Jersey, and was near their lines. I drove them back at every attempt. The enemy opened fire upon me with two pieces of artillery, and I sent a request for a section of battery to silence the enemy. One piece of the Fourth New Jersey was sent to my position, and immediately opened upon them. I then ordered Company K, under command of Lieutenant Barker, to move forward and bring in the abandoned piece, which he succeeded in doing. I placed the piece in position, manning it with men from Company K, taking ammunition from a caisson which was also abandoned by the Fourth New Jersey, all the horses having been shot. After firing about 10 shots from that piece and as many more from the one already there, we drove the enemy's battery from its position. The enemy having retired from our front, I turned the piece over to the lieutenant in charge of the one sent there, it belonging to that battery. I was then ordered to fall back slowly. After falling back a few hundred yards, I found two companies (C and G) on the left of the road, and one (D) on the right. I took command of the whole, seven in all, forming them in column by company, and marched them to the rear. After proceeding a few hundred yards, I was ordered across the field to the right of the turnpike, and took position on a cross-road, where I remained about one hour. I was then ordered to take position on the left of the One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, where I found the other three companies, under command of Captain Bacon, supporting a section of the First Connecticut Battery. We remained there until dark, and were then ordered to camp.

Of the conduct of officers and men under my command, during the engagement, I can but speak in terms of highest praise, particularly of Lieutenant Barker and his company, for their gallant conduct in rescuing the gun, which had been abandoned and was near the enemy's lines. On attempting to work the piece I could find no

lanyard, and my thanks are due to Private Clapp, of Company K, for the promptness and ingenuity displayed by forming one from a piece of telegraph wire near at hand.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. S. SANFORD,
Major Seventh Connecticut Vols., Comdg. Detachment.

Lieut. Col. D. C. RODMAN,
Commanding Regiment.

HDQRS. SEVENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLS.,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 17, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report the part taken by this command, consisting of 17 commissioned officers and 510 enlisted men, in the action of May 16, 1864:

We left the bivouac occupied by the Second Brigade, First Division, Tenth Army Corps, about dark on the night of the 15th instant, and proceeded to the front to relieve the Third New Hampshire Volunteers, who were on duty in the rifle-pits about 400 yards in front of the enemy's works, on the left of the position occupied by our forces. I immediately sent out 2 men from each company about 100 yards to the front of our position as picket, with instructions to fire and fall back, if the enemy advanced in force.

Everything remained quiet until about 4 o'clock on the morning of the 16th, when heavy firing and cheering was heard on the right of our lines, increasing and nearing our position until about 5 o'clock, when the enemy tried to force the lines on our left and were driven back. In about fifteen minutes the picket in our front fired and fell back, reporting the enemy advancing in force. It being very foggy at the time they could not be seen until within 40 or 50 yards of our position. I immediately opened upon them, driving them back with great loss. They rallied and advanced a second and third time, with a determination to carry the position, but were at each attempt repulsed, leaving the dead and wounded in great numbers on our front. I was soon informed that the enemy had forced the line back on my right, and was pouring an enfilading fire upon my right flank. I ordered a fire to be opened from an angle in the center of my lines in that direction, and from my right flank company, which silenced the enemy for a short time. I sent word to the colonel commanding brigade to have my right supported, and I would hold the position against any force. The fog lifting about that time, I could see the enemy about 100 yards on my right flank, secreted behind a fence and trees, picking my men off. I set sharpshooters at work and succeeded in keeping them down. I then sent word that my right was unsupported. Colonel Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers, came and looked at the position occupied by the enemy, and immediately pushed his command forward and drove them back. I soon received orders to leave a strong picket force and fall back. I had 15 men from each company selected to remain under charge of Lieutenants Barker, Gilbert, and Young, the whole under command of Captain Dennis, and was about to fall back with the rest of my command, when I received orders to fall back immediately with the whole, and form in the field to the rear of the woods. I then gave orders, but the men who had been selected to stay not hearing it remained. We fell back rapidly, the enemy

pouring volley after volley into us over the top of their works, and coming out in thousands to sweep the little band (which had been left behind and were pouring a murderous fire into them) from their position. Arriving in the open field, I received orders to fall back to a position in the woods across the field, and form in the rear of the Third New Hampshire Volunteers. My ammunition being nearly expended, I was ordered to take a position in a field about 1,000 yards to the rear and right, where we remained a short time, and being joined by the Third New Hampshire Volunteers, we marched slowly back to a position upon a hill to the left of the turnpike, where we remained a short time and were then marched across a ravine to the rear, taking a position on the ground occupied by us on the night of the 12th, remaining about half an hour, and were then moved back and across the ravine to the place previously occupied, to form a part of the rear guard, remaining three hours and falling slowly back and bringing up the rear. Arrived in camp at about 8 p. m.

I will mention the names of Corporals Walker and Braman, Privates Lamphere and Holmes, Company H; Privates Painter, Minor, Jackson, and Wright, Company C, and Privates D. C. Andrews and Brockett, Company E, who volunteered to reconnoiter in our front after the enemy were driven back, and went forward into the fog upon the ground just vacated by the enemy; and of the 15 men from each company left back too much praise cannot be given them for their conduct in holding the rifle-pits until the rest of the command had gone safely into the woods. But for them the whole command must have been badly cut up. All, officers and men, behaved with great credit to themselves and the regiment, and could the right of our lines been held, we could have held our position against any force brought before it, for with the Spencer carbine, plenty of ammunition, and a determined set of men, nothing can stand before them. Inclosed is a list of casualties:* Killed, 13; wounded, 17; missing, 74; total, 104.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. S. SANFORD,
Major Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, Comdg. Regt.

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,
A. A. A. G., Second Brig., First Div., Tenth Army Corps.

No. 19.

Report of Capt. Theodore Bacon, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, of operations June 1-2.

CAMP OF THE SEVENTH REGT. CONNECTICUT VOLS.,
Near Bermuda Hundred, Va., June 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that this regiment, numbering 15 officers and 324 enlisted men, Maj. O. S. Sanford commanding, relieved the Third New Hampshire Volunteers, upon the picket-line, at dusk on the evening of Wednesday, June 1. Companies A, F, D, and I were posted across the open ground in front of our works between Batteries 4 and 5, in the shallow and disconnected rifle-pits occupied by the picket force. The right of these four companies, of which I was placed in charge, touched the woods where Companies C

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 13.

and H, under Captain Dennis, were posted upon a line turning abruptly to the front along the edge of the woods, and at a distance of some 70 yards making another sharp turn into the woods. Major Sanford made his headquarters with these two companies. On the left of the open field Company I extended a few rods into the woods, and the line was continued by Companies B, G, K, and E, under Captain Mills, over ground heavily wooded and much broken by deep ravines. The whole line was without reserves nearer than the intrenchments, and had become extremely attenuated by the diminishing strength of regiments successively relieving each other. Across the open field the enemy's line of pickets was 150 yards from ours, but in the woods on each side it came at some points to within 20 yards of our own.

Up to half an hour after sunrise on the 2d there was perfect quiet along our entire front, although toward midnight a furious cannonade had been kept up for an hour over our heads by the rebel batteries. At that time an attack was commenced along our whole line by the enemy's pickets advancing from their posts as a line of skirmishers, strongly re-enforced, and 2 or 3 feet apart. In the woods on the left this attack was extremely rapid and sudden. A few steps placed the enemy in our pits, in a position which, favored by the direction of part of the line, enabled them to cut off and capture a large part of Company B. Such part of Captain Mills' command as was not captured, with the exception stated below, fell back slowly, contesting the ground, to a position nearer the works, which they held until later in the morning they were re-enforced and reoccupied and held their first position. In the open field the advance of the enemy began a few moments after firing had been heard on the left. The enemy moved toward us in good line, but slowly and hesitatingly. I opened fire along the whole line, and in two minutes they had all dropped to the ground, where they lay firing from such cover as they could get for a few minutes longer, when the entire line rose and ran to the shelter of their rifle-pits at full speed, followed by our cheers and bullets. From this cover they never ventured again, contenting themselves with a dropping fire from it until we abandoned nearly our entire line. On the right the movement of the enemy was by a dash across that part of the line which ran along the edge of the woods, nearly at right angles with the general direction of the line. This movement, of which at the time I had no information, cut off nearly the whole of the two companies posted there, together with the major commanding the regiment. Word had already been passed to me repeatedly along the line that "our left was turned;" "was cut off;" "had fallen back;" and at last that the enemy were occupying our rifle-pits on the left. I refused to believe these statements, having great confidence in the strength of that position until I saw our skirmishers falling back across the open field toward the works; but I passed the word to Major Sanford on the right. No communication had yet reached me from that officer. I had seen a body of 30 or 40 rebels dash from their pits into the woods in a direction that placed them in the rear of Companies C and H. Groups of our men now began to be led to the rear of the rebel lines under guard; straggling skirmishers were seen falling back toward the works on our right; the enemy's fire began to enfilade our lines from the woods on the right; the position was critical. I sent at last the question to the right, "Where is Major Sanford?" The answer came back "He is cut off." Up to this time my duty had

been simply to hold my position and await orders. It now became necessary to act. The choice was plainly between capture and a perilous retreat across the open fields to our works. I therefore gave the order, with a reluctance which I never felt before in performing a military duty, to fall back. This order was executed after almost all the rest of the division line of picket had given way, under a severe fire from the enemy, and across an unprotected field, but with little loss; and painful as it always is to order a retreat, I had the satisfaction of knowing that the order saved a hundred men and rifles to the service, and of receiving the unqualified approval of my brigade, division, and corps commanders for the course adopted. On the extreme left a part of Company E, in a favorable position, did not leave their ground at all. The men who fell back to the works were re-organized and at once pushed forward to the picket-line, for the most part on the left. The entire line, except at the former post of Companies C and H, was gradually re-established and held.

The conduct of officers and men throughout the affair was admirable, but I may be permitted to speak especially of the extraordinary coolness and courage of Capt. Charles C. Mills, of Company G, who received early in the fight a wound which it is greatly feared may be mortal. The list of casualties inclosed* shows our loss to be in numbers about 30 per centum of those engaged, and 7 out of 15 officers. The actual loss sustained by the regiment in these officers is quite inadequately represented by these figures.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEODORE BACON,
Captain, Comdg. Seventh Connecticut Volunteers.

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,
A. A. A. G., Second Brig., First Div., Tenth Army Corps.

[Indorsements.]

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred Intrenchments, Va., June 6, 1864.

Respectfully returned for correction. In one place it is stated that all of Captain Mills' command fell back, which is not quite correct, and indeed it is afterward stated that E did not fall back. Nor is it correct to say on the third page "that we abandoned our entire line." Captain Perry, with Company I, to say nothing of a few men of neighboring companies, never left the pits on the left of the open field or in the edge of the woods, and on the left it would have been well to have given credit to some men of the company of the First Connecticut Artillery and two companies of the Third New Hampshire, the latter sent out by the brigade commander for their help in re-establishing the line. The posts occupied by C and H were soon after retaken by the Third New Hampshire, the majority of which regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton, went out for that purpose, accomplished it, and took 35 prisoners. Lieutenant Wildman with his company (A) in the redan had materially assisted in clearing the way for this, by opening a lively fire on the woods in that direction, to say nothing of the artillery fire from Batteries 3 and 4.

By order of Colonel Hawley:

E. LEWIS MOORE,
First Lieut. Seventh Connecticut Vols., A. A. A. G.

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 19.

HDQRS. SEVENTH CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., June 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded with the corrections called for.

THEODORE BACON,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

No. 20.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Josiah I. Plimpton, Third New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 9–June 2.

HDQRS. THIRD NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 11, 1864.

SIR: In accordance with instructions received from brigade headquarters, I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken in the affair of the past two days by the Third New Hampshire Volunteers:

We left camp about 7 o'clock on the morning of the 9th, marched with the brigade to Chester Station, on Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, arriving about 12 m. Marched thence down the railroad to Port Walthall Junction, arriving about 2 p. m.; thence to Richmond turnpike, where the regiment was ordered to report to Brigadier-General Terry, and by him posted at Brandon Bridge, on a road from Richmond to Petersburg, 2½ miles from Petersburg, where we arrived about an hour after dark, with instructions to hold the position and allow no troops to advance across the bridge; to reconnoiter the position of the enemy; the condition of the bridge; the enemy's batteries; the depth of water in the river, &c. I marched the column to within about 700 yards of the bridge, formed a line of battle, and advanced with a line of skirmishers to within about 150 yards of the bridge, where I met the enemy advancing. (I was afterward informed by a man living near by that the enemy numbered 200, and were advancing to capture a cavalry patrol that had previously looked the ground over.) The enemy opened fire, which was returned, when he opened with grape and canister from a work on the opposite side of the river. The firing lasted but a few minutes. It being quite dark and knowing very little of the position of the enemy or the ground, I did not try to push the enemy back, but posted my pickets for the night.

While reconnoitering the next morning, the enemy opened with grape and canister, firing a few rounds. This position was held until 1 p. m. 10th instant, when I was ordered to fall back. Proceeded up the turnpike to division headquarters, and was ordered to deploy my regiment as skirmishers at the front, where I remained until about 6 p. m., when I was ordered to return to camp.

All the officers of my command behaved so well it would be difficult to select any particular one for special praise. The men behaved well and underwent their fatiguing duties cheerfully. The casualties were: Private John Smith, of Company D, wounded in hand (severe); Private Patrick Mansfield, Company I, in head (dangerously); and Private John Kennedy, Company A, a case of sunstroke. In returning to camp, shots were accidentally fired by catching the triggers in the bushes, it being dark at the time, and

the following named men were wounded: Private James Ryan, Company E, in leg (slight); Private John L. Wing, Company K, in finger (slight); Private John Wilson, Company K, in hand (severe).

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. I. PLIMPTON,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Third New Hampshire Vols.

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,
A. A. A. G., Second Brig., First Div., Tenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. THIRD NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 16, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the Third New Hampshire Volunteers during the past four days:

We left camp on the morning of the 12th instant, marched to the west side of the turnpike near Perdue's house, and bivouacked for the night.

Next morning marched to the right of the enemy's line of intrenchments, a distance of about 6 miles, when we were ordered to pass to the rear of a fort on his right and take the same. As I approached the fort I found I must pass over a creek with a bridge two planks wide, pass up a steep hill so thickly wooded as to be unable to deploy until I had reached the open field within the fort. Just as we commenced to cross the bridge I found the enemy had discovered us and thrown a line of skirmishers on the crest of the hill in front to stop our approach. They opened fire and it was returned by my advance. I hurried forward as fast as possible, and finding no possibility of deploying in line I pushed forward by the flank, left in front, and as I reached the field swung round into line as best we could. My men steadily advanced, driving the enemy (who were now pressing upon us in large numbers) back to the parapet of his work, and he, finding no one advancing on his front, jumped over the parapet in front of his work and took cover there, and many of them occupied the buildings, from which place they continued a heavy fire upon us, my men taking the best cover they could find. The enemy far outnumbered my command and had excellent cover, but my men tenaciously held their position until about 500 of the enemy were discovered on our left flank passing to our rear, evidently with the intention to flank us. I sent for re-enforcements, and after waiting as long as I considered my men safe from the flanking party and no help coming, I ordered them to fall back to the edge of the wood and there form line, intending to throw my left wing back to oppose the flanking party while my right should hold the front until help should come; but the fire of the enemy was so terrible as they crossed the open field I found it impossible to stop them until they reached the bottom of the ravine at the creek, where I was forming them, when re-enforcements came, and I was ordered back across the creek in the field to form. The force I had to contend with in the fort was said by the prisoners taken to consist of two brigades, numbering about 3,000. In this engagement we took some 8 or 10 prisoners. That evening we were placed in the trenches for the night. Next morning (14th) moved along the enemy's line of intrenchments and took up position in his front, and while drawn up in column as sup-

port to the line in front had 2 men killed and 6 wounded. At night went to the front for picket duty, where during the night we dug a ditch for cover as best we could with tin pans, dippers, plates, &c. Next morning (15th) the enemy commenced firing upon us, which was returned, and heavy firing continued all day. Was relieved at night and fell back in rear of the woods for the night. Our casualties for the day were 3 enlisted men killed and 5 wounded. Next morning (16th) was ordered to the front to charge over the enemy's work. After lying in rear of picket-line for some time, waiting orders to go forward, I was ordered to the rear, and in falling back our loss was considerable. Fell back to the right and rear, and halted in rear of a small piece of woods. While there the enemy charged out of his work directly in my front and attempted to flank the troops on our left. I was ordered to advance and engage the enemy, and did so. After a few minutes firing he began to shake, and I immediately ordered a charge and drove him into a piece of woods, where he attempted to rally, but could not, and retired to his work. We took 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 major, and some 15 privates prisoners, and left a large number of the enemy dead and wounded in the woods and on the ground we occupied. Afterward was ordered to fall back, and came to camp same evening. Casualties of the day were 2 officers killed and 1 wounded; 7 enlisted men killed and 34 wounded, and 13 missing.

During the four days' engagements my officers and men behaved in a most gallant manner, and nobly and cheerfully did their duty and underwent the hardships and privations to which they were subjected.

Inclosed is a list* of the killed, wounded, and missing for the four days covered by this report.

J. I. PLIMPTON,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Third New Hampshire Vols.

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,
A. A. A. G., Second Brig., First Div., Tenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. THIRD NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS.
Bermuda Hundred, Va., June 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the affair of yesterday:

In accordance with orders my men (about 200) moved out to the redan in front of Battery No. 3. I then reported to General Terry, who ordered me to go out to the picket-line and communicate with the officer in charge of the picket-line, after which I reported to General Terry again, and was ordered to deploy my men in front of the redan and move up and retake the rifle-pits in the field and in the woods on the right; but after looking over the ground and finding it nearly impossible to get through the timber, and knowing I should be seen plainly by the enemy and draw a heavy fire, I concluded to march my men round to the picket-line, and moved through to the woods to the left, where I deployed half my men in a direction so as to flank the corner of the woods next the open field and moved up cautiously until near the enemy, when, at the order, my men dashed forward over the pits of the enemy and were hardly

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 13.

restrained from following the retreating enemy to his own works. At the same time the line moved up, the balance of my men were moved still more to the left by the flank through the timber and into the pits in the open field, while the line occupied the enemy's attention on the right. A considerable number of prisoners were taken, but being immediately sent to the rear I am unable to state the number. I occupied our old line of pits, extending to the right through the woods about 400 yards. Here the Thirty-Ninth Illinois Volunteers moved up and connected with my right at my request. From my right the line bore off to the right across the road to Ware Bottom Church, about 150 yards in advance of the line first occupied by our forces. I found in the woods near the open field the enemy had dug a new line of pits a little north of our own line. After occupying the line I proceeded, in accordance with General Terry's instructions, to establish a new line a little in rear of the one now held and connecting with the old pit first occupied by our forces, and detailed an officer to take charge of a working party and commence digging the pits.

In this affair my officers and men behaved in a most gallant manner, nobly doing their duty. Capt. William H. Maxwell rendered me great assistance as acting major of the regiment, and deserves special mention for his conduct at this time. About dark my men were relieved and returned to camp. The casualties were as follows, making a total of 2 killed and 8 wounded.*

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. I. PLIMPTON,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Third New Hampshire Vols.

Lieut. E. L. MOORE,
A. A. A. G., Second Brig., First Div., Tenth Army Corps.

No. 21.

Report of Lieut. Col. Thomas A. Henderson, Seventh New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 9–10.

HDQRS. SEVENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this regiment in the operations of the 9th and 10th instant:

The line was formed at 4 a. m. on the 9th, and soon after the regiment, with the others constituting Hawley's brigade, marched toward the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, and reaching the railroad at about 12 m., proceeded on the line of the road toward Petersburg. On arriving at Walthall Junction the regiment remained halted several hours. The command of the regiment here devolved upon myself, Colonel Abbott assuming the command of the brigade. Toward sunset the regiment was moved forward on the turnpike about 1 mile, and again halted and formed in line of battle. At about 11 p. m. the regiment was moved back to the turnpike crossing, where it bivouacked during the night. At about 7 a. m. on the 10th instant the regiment was ordered to tear up the

* Nominal list omitted.

track of the railroad near Walthall Junction. It was engaged in so doing for about an hour, tearing up some third of a mile of the track. An order was then received to march the regiment by the turnpike northerly. The extreme heat, together with the exertions the men had already made in destroying the railroad, rendered the march very severe. As the regiment advanced the rapid firing of artillery was heard growing more and more distinct, and indicating an engagement between the advanced force and the enemy. On reaching the road running westerly across the turnpike to the railroad, at Chester Station, the firing was very near, and chiefly on the westerly side of the turnpike. I was ordered by General Terry to move the regiment as quickly as possible down the road to the west of the turnpike, and to form line of battle to resist the enemy in that direction. I moved forward as fast as the exhausted condition of the men would permit, and at about half a mile from the turnpike entered a large open field on the left, and moved forward toward the Winfree house, beyond which the firing indicated the presence of the enemy. By order of Colonel Abbott commanding the brigade, I formed line of battle, with the right in rear and just beyond the house, the line extending back perpendicularly to the house along a slight garden fence. The enemy not appearing in force in front, and there being indications of his advance through the woods on the right, by order of Colonel Abbott I moved round the house and formed in line of battle in front of it, facing to the north. Being here exposed to a flank fire from a battery on the left, the regiment was moved on the road to the right and then to the rear, where the men were directed to lie down behind a slight elevation which afforded some protection from the artillery fire of the enemy. At this time Rockwell's Connecticut battery took position in the field, to my right and rear, and opened fire into the woods in front and also to the left, firing over my regiment. In a few moments the enemy appeared advancing on my left, when, by order of Colonel Abbott, I returned to the position before described, along the line of the garden fence. Tearing down the fence, a slight shelter was formed from the material, behind which the men were made to lie down. Several small outbuildings also afforded concealment and shelter from the enemy. These dispositions having been made, I waited the approach of the enemy. For some 150 yards immediately in front of my line was a slight slope of cultivated ground. Next beyond, for several hundred yards, was a large space, considerably broken and thickly covered with stumps. Beyond was a thick wood, in front of which were the enemy's skirmishers engaged with our own. Our skirmishers drove those of the enemy back into the woods, whereupon a regiment of the enemy moved out of the woods, driving back our skirmishers and advancing to within about 500 yards of my line, protecting themselves somewhat by the inequalities of the ground and the stumps. They then delivered a tremendous volley, doing, however, but trifling execution. The volley was promptly returned by my regiment, and followed up in a most spirited and determined manner, the men accompanying their volleys with cheers of defiance to the enemy. The enemy withstood the fire for a few moments and retired precipitately to the woods. Rockwell's battery, in my rear, continued all the while firing rapidly, and apparently with great execution, into the woods. Several regiments of the enemy were visible in the woods, one of which soon emerged and advanced

in the same manner as the first, only to imitate its retreat, but still more precipitately, under the incessant and well-directed fire of my eager troops. The enemy appearing in great force in the edge of woods, Colonel Abbott directed me to retire slowly, believing it impossible for my small force to hold the position. Understanding, however, that it was deemed important to hold the position, if possible, I sent word to Colonel Abbott that I thought I would be able to do so. The order to retire was accordingly countermanded. Three battalions of the enemy, one of cavalry and two of infantry, now moved out of the woods in column (as I judged from their subsequent deployment) doubled on the center. Awaiting their approach to about 500 yards from my line, the regiment delivered a deliberate volley, accompanied with yells and cheers, which probably suggested to the enemy the presence of a much larger force, or perhaps the arrival of re-enforcements, for the whole body hastily withdrew toward the edge of the woods. At this moment I perceived a strong force deploying and moving toward my left flank, apparently preparing to charge from that direction. I accordingly withdrew some 300 yards, at the same time changing the direction of the line of battle to face the forces on my left. For some cause this force rapidly withdrew, and the regiment again became engaged with the force in front, and returned to its former position. The enemy withdrew and did not again appear in force in that direction, and I ceased firing. I soon received an order from Colonel Abbott to withdraw to the rear of the battery, then to move in line of battle through the woods to the turnpike; thence through the woods east of the turnpike to a road parallel to it; thence down this road till I joined the Seventh Connecticut on my right. Remaining here till about sunset, I received an order to return to my present camp.

The morning report of the 10th showed present 17 officers and 288 enlisted men. Deducting the pioneers, drum corps, and a few who had fallen out from exhaustion on the march, there were actually engaged about 275 officers and men.

Respecting the conduct of my men, I can only say that it was all that could be desired. If they failed in any respect it was in an excess of zeal and impetuosity to move forward against the enemy. The re-enlisted veterans of the regiment were not present. The force engaged was chiefly composed of recruits of but a few months' drill and service. Their conduct on this occasion deserves a high compliment, and is a source of pride and satisfaction to their officers. My subordinate officers uniformly conducted themselves in a way to meet my full approbation, some of them exhibiting admirable coolness and gallantry. I append hereto a list* of the casualties during the action. The list is small in consequence, partly, of the sheltered position of my command and partly of the fire of the enemy being very high. Their artillery did no execution whatever.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. A. HENDERSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers.

Lieut. E. L. MOORE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 13.

No. 22.

Report of Col. Joseph C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 12–16.

HDQRS. SEVENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my regiment in the late expedition, commencing on Thursday, May 12, and closing on Monday, May 16:

On Thursday, May 12, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Henderson, the regiment marched to the place known as Perdue's, on the turnpike, and there bivouacked. At that place I joined it during the night. The next morning, May 13, I marched toward Chester Station, passed it, crossed the railroad, and proceeded in the direction of Chester Court-House; thence turning toward the right, again approached the railroad and a rebel earth-work, which it was proposed to assault. By order of Colonel Hawley, commanding the Second Brigade, Terry's division, I took position fronting the earth-work, in order to support a battery. While in that position the assault on the work was commenced on my left, and I was ordered to support it. I accordingly moved in that direction across a small stream, and passed up toward the earth-work and took position in the edge of the wood fronting it. I there met the Third Regiment New Hampshire Volunteers falling back. An assault having been made on the opposite side of the work, and the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers having come up on my left, an advance was made, and it was ascertained that the works had been already evacuated. I was then ordered by Brigadier-General Terry to proceed into a piece of wood, and from its edge obtain a flanking fire on a rebel battery posted in a field about 600 yards from the earth-work. I at once proceeded skirmishing through the wood, and reached a point opposite, where the battery was posted, and found that it had retired within an earth-work. I then sent forward skirmishers to examine the earth-work, and ascertained that it contained three pieces of artillery, supported by infantry. I then called in the skirmishers to the railroad, threw out a line of pickets on the railroad, and remained until about 10 p. m., when I was relieved and returned within the intrenchments for the night.

The next day, May 14, I occupied a portion of the front of the whole line of Terry's division, which had been advanced about a mile to the eastward. This position was directly in front of a strong earth-work. During the afternoon the line was advanced within 250 yards of the earth-work, and at that point I held a position on the left of the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers. The firing both from artillery and musketry was constant, and after dark my position was assaulted by a heavy force, which was handsomely repelled. By order of Colonel Hawley, having been relieved by the Third New Hampshire, I withdrew at about 8 p. m. to a field 400 or 500 yards in the rear, where the command rested until daylight on the morning of the 16th. At that time heavy firing was heard on the extreme right of the Eighteenth Corps, which gradually extended along the whole line to our front, and I received orders to form line of battle and advance toward the earth-work already spoken of. For about an hour I occupied a position in the edge of the woods,

fronting the work, when I was detached from the Second Brigade with orders to report to Major-General Smith, at the Half-Way House, on the turnpike. On the way thither I met General Smith, who ordered me to take a position in the woods in front of where I then was. I had hardly reached the position, when I was fired into from the rear by our own troops and had 1 officer and 3 men wounded. I then moved to a point near the Half-Way House, and was ordered by General Smith to take command of the Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers and a section of a battery, and hold the approach by the turnpike. Soon after, by order of General Smith, the Tenth New Hampshire was withdrawn to the right, and, it being reported by the officer commanding the skirmish line that the enemy was forming a heavy line on my left, I reported the fact to General Terry, who very soon sent Colonel Plaisted, commanding the Third Brigade of his division, with two regiments to strenthen the position. I remained at the Half-Way House in the position which I first occupied until about 3 p. m., when I withdrew by order of General Terry on the turnpike, and thence retired within the intrenchments.

Of the conduct of my command, both officers and men, during this expedition, I desire to speak with more than the ordinary emphasis. Although the command was in almost constant service for five days, with unusual exposure, with short rations and much of the time under severe fire, I know of few, if any, instances of orders which were not obeyed with cheerfulness and alacrity, and in all cases when exposed to the fire of the enemy the command behaved with the coolness and bravery becoming soldiers.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH C. ABBOTT,
Colonel Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers.

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 23.

Reports of Col. Harris M. Plaisted, Eleventh Maine Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations May 7–10.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 9, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the part taken by my brigade in the affair of the 7th, upon the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad:

On the morning of the 7th instant, in obedience to orders, I reported with my command, Third Brigade, Terry's division, to Major-General Smith, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, and was assigned for the day to General Brooks' command. The column took up the line of march in the direction of the junction of the pike and Petersburg railroad, General Burnham's brigade having the advance. Having advanced a short distance beyond our picket-line, the advance brigade feeling the enemy, was deployed, and my brigade was deployed in its rear, forming a second line. In this order the enemy was pushed back toward the railroad and pike, not without a stout resistance, until General Brooks had secured the com-

manding heights upon the right, overlooking the wide valley, while Burnham's brigade held the enemy in check in the front. I was ordered by General Brooks to descend into the valley to the right of Burnham and find the railroad, and to destroy as much of it as possible. Barton's brigade was also to make a demonstration in the enemy's front. Taking a wide detour to the right by a ravine, and concealed by the woods, I moved my brigade to the pike in three columns, the One hundredth New York Volunteers, Colonel Dandy, on the right; Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, Colonel Osborn, in the center; and the Tenth Connecticut Volunteers, Colonel Otis, on the left, the two latter regiments somewhat retired. Finding no enemy on the pike, I put the One hundredth (my right regiment) in through the wood upon the railroad, a short distance to the north of the junction. This regiment immediately became hotly engaged. I then moved the Twenty-fourth and Tenth to the right and put them in echelon, the Twenty-fourth advanced, and about 400 yards from the One hundredth, aiming to get upon the enemy's flank without engaging all my regiments. The officer in command of the skirmishers of the Twenty-fourth reporting that he was on the railroad and no enemy to be seen, I held the Tenth in reserve, and sending in the pioneers of the brigade with the Twenty-fourth the work of destruction commenced. Colonel Dandy with the One hundredth attacked the enemy with great vigor on my left, charging across the railroad and driving him from the high ground beyond. He swung his right forward and held the enemy for full two hours and a half, while the Twenty-fourth and pioneers were destroying the road. In the mean time Barton's brigade attacked in front to the left of the One hundredth. The left wing of the One hundredth receiving some shots from Barton's fire was retired and set at work in destroying the trestle bridge and the road in their rear.

The following extract is from Colonel Dandy's official report:

Across this field, under a brisk fire from the enemy, I carried my colors, and, crossing the railroad, rallied my men on a height overlooking the rebel position and within short range of their advanced rifle-pits. The brigade of Colonel Barton was in the mean time advancing on our left and rear. A portion of his brigade, the Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, overlapping my regiment, joined me on the heights and planted its colors near the colors of the One hundredth New York Volunteers. We maintained this position for above two hours, repelled two successive charges of the enemy on our position, and materially aided Colonel Barton's brigade on our left, the enemy pressing upon them being checked by our fire on his flank. In the mean time my regiment and the remaining two regiments of the brigade were engaged in tearing up the railroad and destroying the telegraph lines, both on the turnpike and railroad. This having been accomplished to a considerable extent—as far as I could see in the Richmond direction—including one trestle bridge*, the brigade withdrew in sufficient time to prevent a flanking movement of the enemy on our left, caused by the falling back of Barton's brigade, and retook the position from which the movement was made. The object of the movement was successfully accomplished, and as far as I was able to judge great damage inflicted on the railroad and telegraph lines.

The destruction of the road extended more than a mile, and was as thorough and complete as possible, considering the means at hand to work with. Four lines of telegraph were also destroyed—two each upon the pike and railroad. The enemy having appeared on my front and right, I made dispositions to retire, when an order came from General Brooks to retire immediately; that I was in

*See Dandy's report, p. 87.

danger of being flanked. I retired in echelon by half battalions. Having recrossed the pike I moved up a ravine, concealing the movement from the enemy. A portion of Barton's brigade being roughly pressed back across the pike by the enemy advancing, I moved two of my regiments into the open field and formed line of battle in his rear in plain view of the enemy. This demonstration checked the enemy's advance. Reporting to General Brooks upon the height, he directed that the two regiments thus formed should remain as posted and be ready to advance, if necessary, to extricate Barton. At the same time Burnham's brigade was pushed forward upon the left of my two regiments. The enemy making no farther advance, I was directed by General Brooks about sunset to take the advance and return to camp, carrying with me every wounded man, every musket, and every part of a musket belonging to my command. The brigade was reformed upon the hill and marched to camp, and so far as I am aware, without a single straggler. The loss in the brigade was wholly confined to the One hundredth New York Volunteers, that regiment having done all the fighting and most gallantly, while my two remaining regiments were at work destroying the railroad and telegraph lines. The loss in the One hundredth was 2 killed, 16 wounded (including 2 commissioned officers), and 9 missing. A list of the killed, wounded, and missing is inclosed.*

I cannot close my report without making special mention of Colonel Dandy and the One hundredth New York Volunteers, whose unflinching courage and dash enabled the brigade to accomplish the object of the expedition. To him and to Colonels Osborn and Otis, for their prompt execution of every order, I am entirely indebted for the success. Lieutenant-Colonel Stevenson, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, with one wing of his regiment, did good service in securing our rear and flank. Upon retiring he destroyed a large saw-mill and an immense quantity of lumber, which he caused to be fired. The fourth regiment of my brigade (the Eleventh Maine Volunteers), being on picket, did not accompany the expedition.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. M. PLAISTED,
Colonel Eleventh Maine Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

Maj. N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 11, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to Special Orders, No. 3, paragraph III, from corps headquarters, I assumed command of the intrenchments and troops therein on the morning of the 9th instant.

Immediately upon taking the command I assigned Colonels Dandy, Barton, and Drake to the command of all the forces remaining behind of their respective divisions, and gave to each his part of the

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 13.

intrenchments to fortify and defend, Dandy on the right, Barton the center, and Drake the left. The forces under my command consisted of three brigades and about 500 men, fragments of regiments gone to the front, the sick and camp guards. Four regiments of the force were on picket.

My first care was to make the line of intrenchments immediately defensible by a small force. The whole force was set to work. By daybreak of the 10th the entire front of the Tenth Corps, excepting a part of the center, was covered by a line of rifle-pits and obstructed by slashings where there were trees to be felled, and thirty-two pieces of artillery were put in position. A large amount of work was done, considering the force at hand, by Colonels Dandy and Drake, who, having charge of the flanks, engaged in the work with a zeal and determination that infused into their men the same spirit. They were on duty constantly day and night, personally directing and attending to everything on their respective fronts. No hearty cooperation was received from Colonel Barton. Captain Walker, of the Engineers, refused to obey my orders. In the forenoon of the 9th I directed him to forego his nice work, revetments, &c., and be sure that the platforms for the six guns and the embrasures were all constructed before dark; also a banquette, so that the work might be used as a rifle-pit. He did not attend to it. Later in the day I again gave him the same order with some emphasis. He replied that I wished to injure him "professionally" by the roughness of the work, &c. Finally I ordered the artillery officers to superintend the construction of their platforms, &c. They did so, and by dark all the pieces (six) on the right were well mounted but one. At dusk I again ordered Captain Walker to prepare the banquette for the works on the right.

Nothing then had been done by him toward it, and the parapets could not be manned. He refused, and said he would not obey any but a superior of his own corps. I informed him that I was placed in command by General Gillmore, and then gave him a formal order, which he refused to obey. I placed him in arrest and ordered him to thus report to his superior officer. He made some talk, and I ordered Colonel Dandy to place him in close confinement unless he left immediately.

On the morning of the 10th I received a note from Colonel Serrell stating that "I have released Captain Walker from arrest." Captain Walker soon after appeared on duty. I refused to recognize him. He again appeared in the afternoon and called for three regiments, as he said, by the orders of General Butler, but he could furnish no order from General Butler. I shall forthwith forward to the general commanding charges and specifications against the captain. During the day of the 10th I received from the general commanding a call for six regiments. They were immediately sent forward. I kept informed as to the state of things in my front by frequent communications with Colonel Howell, as directed by the general commanding.

Copies of two circulars are inclosed as a part of this report.

I have the honor to be, colonel, your most obedient servant,

H. M. PLAISTED,
Colonel Eleventh Maine Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

Lieut. Col. EDWARD W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Within the Intrenchments, May 9, 1864—5 a. m.

I. Colonels Dandy, Barton, and Drake, commanding brigades, will assume command of all the troops of their respective divisions remaining behind. They will immediately send to these headquarters a report of each regiment in their command, stating the number of men in each regiment fit for duty in the trenches in case of an attack, cooks, teamsters, musicians, guards, and every man capable of an hour's duty in an emergency will be required to fall in. These fragments of regiments will be organized with a suitable number of officers.

II. Captain Elder, Battery B, First U. S. Artillery, will take command of all the artillery remaining behind, placing in position on the intrenchments immediately at least three batteries, and assigning the reserve to their position.

III. No bands, drum corps, or bugles will be allowed to play or sound the calls, except in case of an alarm, until further orders. The discharge of fire-arms under any circumstances excepting as signal of alarm is forbidden. Any officer or soldier offending in these particulars will be immediately arrested.

IV. The work upon the intrenchments will be pushed forward with the greatest dispatch. The commanding officers above named will be held responsible for the careful observance of this order.

By order of H. M. Plaisted, colonel Eleventh Maine Volunteers, commanding:

CHAS. B. AMORY,
Capt. Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Vols., A. A. A. G.

(Copy to Colonels Dandy, Barton, Drake, and the commanding officers of all the batteries.)

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Within the Intrenchments, May 9, 1864—8 p. m.

COLONEL: I have intelligence from the front that Howell has been driven back by the enemy in force. You will therefore make every exertion to make your front secure. Your regiment will be in readiness to man the rifle-pits at a minute's notice.

The main roads in your front will be guarded at a short distance from your front by a small picket, which will discover the character of every one passing. The utmost vigilance will be exercised, as well as exertion. The camps and fatigue parties must be silent as possible. All the forces will stand to arms at 3.30 a. m. The artillery officers will be notified to be on the alert. Every man must do his duty; his very best.

Very respectfully,

H. M. PLAISTED,
Colonel Eleventh Maine Volunteers, Commanding.

(Copy to Colonels Dandy, Barton, and Drake.)

No. 24.

Report of Col. John L. Otis, Tenth Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 12–16.

HDQRS. TENTH REGT. CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward the following report of the services performed by the Tenth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers during the movements of the last four days:

May 12 the regiment left the intrenchments at 1 p. m., in light marching order, without rations, and reached the Richmond turnpike at the cross-roads about 4. Marched up the turnpike 1½ miles and bivouacked for the night in line of battle. Distance marched, 4 miles. 13th, resumed our march at 6.30 a. m. At 8 I received orders to move the regiment on in advance of the column, and take such a position at Clover Hill Junction as would best enable us to cover the approaches to that point. I placed the regiment in position near the railroad junction, sending out pickets with strong supports on the different roads. After our advance had crossed the railroad, the regiment resumed its place in column, our brigade having the advance of the flying column under General Gillmore, designed to turn the enemy's position on the right. On reaching the rear of the enemy's position near Proctor's Creek, the regiment was placed in position to support a section of the Fifth New Jersey Battery, and as the enemy was driven from the works, moved up the hill in support of the artillery, taking position near the redoubt on the extreme right of the enemy's works. While in this position had 3 men wounded by the enemy's shells. At 6 p. m. received orders to man and hold a portion of the captured works, and at 10 was ordered on picket, relieving the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts, One hundredth New York, and five companies of the Seventh New Hampshire. Every officer and man was on duty the entire night. There was sharp firing in our front most of the night, but too far distant to do us any harm. The enemy evacuated the remainder of his first line of defenses before morning. Distance marched to-day about 6 miles. 14th, soon after daylight, a strong line of skirmishers appeared in front of our position. General Gillmore sent an aide, with orders for me to ascertain at once whether they were our own or the enemy's. Collecting a few men from the nearest picket-posts as skirmishers under Captain White, and leaving orders for a company to follow as reserve, I advanced to meet them. They proved to be the skirmishers of General Turner's division advancing to recover the communication lost in our rapid flank movement the day before. At 8 a. m. we advanced on the enemy's second line of works, the Tenth Regiment forming the reserve of the brigade. Being much annoyed by sharpshooters in the woods near the railroad, Colonel Plaisted directed me to take position in the brigade line on the left, send forward a strong line of skirmishers under Major Greeley, support him with the balance of the regiment, and if possible uncover the enemy's position. This order was promptly executed. We drove the enemy's skirmishers from the woods and established our line on the opposite side. We found the enemy's main position to be a very strong one. About 600 yards from the wood on the right of the railroad was a strong redoubt mounting five guns. On the left of the road, about 300 yards

farther from the wood was another large redoubt. Two guns only could be distinguished in it, though from its size it evidently contained more. On the high ground in the rear of these redoubts and covering them completely were two strong lines of earth-works with flank defenses. I reported the enemy's position to Colonel Plaisted, also to General Terry, who ordered me to move the regiment forward and advance the skirmishers into the open field, near enough to the enemy's works to protect the First Connecticut Battery, which was ordered to take position on our left, from the enemy's sharpshooters. The movement was executed with great promptness. We drove the enemy's skirmishers into their works, taking the position indicated and holding it through the day, our skirmishers keeping the enemy from their guns in the redoubts most of the time. At 9.30 in the evening the enemy made a determined attack along the entire front of the brigade. It was handsomely repulsed at every point, my regiment having but five rounds of ammunition per man left when the assault commenced. We held the position until 11 p. m., and were then relieved by the Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers. Retiring a short distance we bivouacked in line of battle. Our loss during the day was 3 killed and 12 wounded, including 1 commissioned officer, Captain Brewster. 15th, the regiment remained in bivouac all day. Sent to camp for our shelter tents in compliance with orders from division headquarters. 16th, a furious cannonade, with heavy volleys of musketry, commenced on our right at 4.30 a. m. The regiment was formed in order of battle immediately, and at 6 was ordered forward to support an assault on the enemy's works. No assault was made, however, and at 9.30 Colonel Plaisted ordered me to move my command off by the right flank, taking care to keep up communication with Colonel Hawley's brigade, which was executing the same movement on our right. We moved off as directed, and on reaching the open field near General Gillmore's quarters took position to cover the withdrawal of the advance regiments of our brigade and a portion of Colonel Hawley's. While in this position the enemy attacked us in strong force, but was completely repulsed after a sharp engagement, in which we took several prisoners, our own loss being 3 killed and 15 wounded. As the enemy fell back I sent forward a body of skirmishers, under Captain Goodyear, and ascertained they had left our front entirely. The regiment remained in this position until the killed and wounded had all been removed and was then withdrawn, taking a new position to cover the retreat of a portion of White's brigade on our left. After they had all retired the regiment fell back to the position occupied by our artillery, and joining the other regiments of the brigade, which had retired down the railroad, marched rapidly across to the Richmond turnpike and again formed in line of battle to cover the withdrawal of the troops in front. At 2 p. m., in company with the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts, we advanced up the turnpike to the Half-Way House and were posted by Colonel Plaisted on the left of the road to support a section of James' battery. The enemy placed two rifled guns in position on the road in front and commenced shelling us furiously. Our own artillery limbered up at the first shot, and at a second started for the rear at a gallop, not firing a shot. The shelling continued for half an hour. Lieutenant Hickerson and several men were hit with pieces of shell and spherical case-shot, but only one man was injured so as to be compelled to leave the ranks. The regiment remained in this position

about an hour and a half, and was then withdrawn, by order of Colonel Plaisted, under a scattering fire of musketry. The regiment was then ordered back to the cross-roads and again formed on the Chester road to cover the retiring column from attack in that direction, the Thirty-ninth Illinois holding the turnpike toward Petersburg. Remaining in this position until the rear of the infantry column had passed, we resumed our march, forming the rear guard thence to our picket-line. We reached our camp inside the intrenchments at 8 p. m.

During the entire movement the conduct of the officers and men of the regiment was unexceptionable. The men behaved with unflinching courage and steadiness, while the zeal, courage, and ability with which the officers performed their duty in every emergency could not be exceeded. Our entire loss in the four days' campaign was: Killed, 6; wounded, 30.

Inclosed you will find the official list.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. OTIS,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. CHARLES B. AMORY,
A. A. A. G., 3d Brig., 1st Div., 10th Army Corps.

No. 25.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Winslow P. Spofford, Eleventh Maine Infantry, of operations May 9–16.

HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH MAINE VOLUNTEERS,
Near Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the doings of my command during the late movement as follows:

In obedience to orders from headquarters Tenth Army Corps, I reported with my regiment to Colonel Howell, commanding First Brigade, on the morning of the 9th, at 4 a. m., and at 7 o'clock took up the line of march for the railroad at Chester, arriving there about 11 a. m. After a short stop at this point I was ordered with my command to return by the same route to the church near Ware Bottom, acting as rear guard during the march. At this point I was stationed as a reserve for the outer pickets, remaining during the night and all of the next day, the 10th, a portion of my command being stationed on the road leading to the turnpike, about one-third of a mile to the left of the church, as a support for a section of the ——— New Jersey Battery. I have no casualties to report. Some of my men were seriously affected by the excessive heat and rapid march on the return from the railroad to the church. About dark on the 10th I was ordered to the camp within the fortifications.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. SPOFFORD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division.

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* Embodied in revised statement, p. 13.

HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH MAINE VOLUNTEERS,
In the Field, Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 24, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of my command during the "four days' fighting," 13th to 16th instant:

Being on picket duty at the time of the advance, the 12th instant, the brigade moved without the Eleventh. That evening I was relieved from that duty, and spent the night in camp. At 6.30 a. m. of the 13th the following order reached me by hand of the orderly who was to conduct the regiments named to the front:

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 13, 1864—5.50 a. m.

Col. J. B. HOWELL,
Commanding Brigade:

The major-general commanding directs that you send the Eleventh Maine and Sixth Connecticut Volunteers to this point immediately. * * * They will bring an issue of coffee and bread for two days.

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

In obedience to the foregoing order the regiment was put in march and took a direct route for the turnpike, then up that road to the Half-Way House, where I reported in person to Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler, who ordered my command to rest in the road until further orders. The men had nearly finished their dinners when at 11.30 o'clock an aide came to conduct me to a position in the woods west of the house, ordering me to report to Brigadier-General Turner, whom I found there, and who ordered me into line of battle on the front line, with my right resting on the left of the One hundred and eighty-eighth New York State Volunteers. The skirmishers I found extended on my front and left flank, within 50 yards of my line of battle in each direction. The line of battle was formed, and men ordered to lie down at 12 m. Within an hour after the skirmishers, having advanced, were attacked by the enemy and driven in, passing from my front by my right flank. Fearing my front was left exposed I sent out a scout, who reported a line unoccupied by skirmishers, to fill which I detailed half of Company K, and sent Captain Hill to establish the line, which done I had him relieved by Lieutenant Brannan (who volunteered for that duty), and gave the lieutenant positive orders to have his men keep deployed and fill the gap, if any existed, in the skirmish line, and be sure to connect with the skirmishers on his right and left. In a short time the lieutenant sent me word that he had not men enough; that a company was needed to make the line secure. I then sent Company I, Captain Merrill, instructing Captain Merrill that he would be in command, and to act cautiously. Soon firing was heard in that direction, and by 4 p. m. a call was made for a stretcher, as Lieutenant Brannan had been shot and others wounded. Upon inquiry I ascertained my orders had been exceeded by Lieutenant Brannan, who pressed forward too near the brick house occupied by the enemy's sharpshooters, which movement cost the life of that brave officer and 1 private, with several others wounded. The fire of skirmishers was kept up through the remainder of the day and evening.

At early dawn of the 14th I was informed the enemy had retired from his first line of defenses in my front (as also for the whole line probably), including the brick house, and that they were already occupied by Union troops. About 6 a. m. I received or-

ders to hasten with my regiment through the woods and report to Colonel Barton, Forty-eighth New York State Volunteers, commanding brigade. Doing so he placed me on the left of his front line of battle and then the brigade was moved forward to and across the road leading easterly toward Drewry's Bluff. Here my men at once threw up a light barricade of fence rails and logs, behind which they lay for twenty-six hours. Again were my skirmishers thrown forward, to whom I gave orders to act coolly and not waste ammunition but make every shot tell. These were relieved every four hours, by which means each company and man had opportunity to exhibit their mettle and yet rest what they could. All were prompt in the execution of my orders and manifested the cool, ready obedience exhibited by the Eleventh on other fields of danger. No shelter was procurable without tools (and my pioneers had been detained by one of Colonel Howell's subordinates) to secure even the reserve from casualty by the enemy's missiles, as his rifle-shots passed continually near, and his spherical case, from a howitzer opposite my front, bursting over, dropped splinters and contents among officers and men. Many narrow escapes were had, but few casualties were suffered. At 6 o'clock eve orders came from General Turner to make a general advance along the line. I immediately threw forward four companies to support the two already on the skirmish line. The advance was made, but soon Captain Hill, in command of my companies, sent me the information that he had advanced over the enemy's slashing nearly to his earth-works; should have entered them but for the want of support on the right by the One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, and the left by the Sixth Connecticut Volunteers, as both regiments advanced with him, but had fallen back 30 to 40 yards. I then ordered forward a sufficient force from the companies in support to cover his flanks, and instructed Captain Hill to move with caution. The enemy, seeing the flanking regiments fall back, returned to the position in the woods which he had left when our forces advanced. No doubt if properly supported by the other regiments, Captain Hill and the companies of the Eleventh would have entered and held the line of works they charged upon, and which success might have given a different result to the four days' fight. Several wounded prisoners were brought in, captured on the grounds which my companies charged over. These prisoners asserted their loss from the fire of the "Maine boys" far exceeded that from the other regiments, and that my men must be all sharpshooters, yet my orders had been generally obeyed to the letter and less than one-fourth the ammunition was expended by the Eleventh than was by those on the right and left. The general ascertaining the result of the movement, the advanced party was ordered to fall back, the companies in support withdrawn, and the line occupied for the night.

On the 15th, at 9 a. m., I was ordered to report with my regiment to Colonel Plaisted, my proper brigade commander, which I did, and was thus relieved after forty-five hours constantly in line of battle, in position, skirmishing with the enemy all the time. Except the time occupied by inspection of arms, the overtasked officers and men were permitted to rest until 6 p. m., at which hour an aide of General Terry's came with orders for me to move my regiment to an outpost at the house beyond the railroad, on the extreme left, accompanied by a section of artillery. Arriving at the spot I could gather little information relative to the position other than it was

the scene of a sharp attack by the enemy the previous evening. I had my pickets posted, and soon received orders to intrench, and procuring tools the men were worked by reliefs all night, throwing up a good infantry breast-work on three sides of the square inclosing the house and several acres of land, the fourth or southeasterly side being already nearly covered by the parapet erected by the enemy, being a part of his line which was taken at the first attack.

Here early on the 16th, while enveloped by the dense fog, the firing, yells, and cheers of the first fight of that day struck our ears. The men were just finishing their breakfast of coffee and hard bread, when orders came from the division commander for me to return and occupy the position where the regiment rested the previous day. I had reached and formed line of battle when I was further ordered to a new position in the field nearer the enemy's line, where the battle was then going on. After half an hour General Terry in person ordered me to hasten with the regiment to the turnpike in the shortest possible time. The march was taken up and I hurriedly led the regiment past the lines, where desperate fighting was raging, through the woods while the enemy's shells went crashing through the trees, and emerged into the field at the Half-Way House. It was at a point some 200 yards from the front where the battle still fiercely rolled on that I formed my line, and at once, in the absence of orders, judging it to be my duty to take position for attack or defense, as might be necessary, before finding a commanding officer. Here a slight depression of the surface furnished a little cover to my men, as they lay on the ground in obedience to my command. Immediately, however, Major-General Smith rode up, and learning the name of the regiment thus suddenly appearing and the cause of it, he remarked, "It must be one sent over to General Ames for securing the intrenchments, but you must remain where you now are for a while, prepared to open fire upon the enemy, as he seems to be approaching," and ordered my front slightly changed forward on the first company to uncover a regiment in front of my left flank, and to cover the ground where the Ninth New Jersey Volunteers had been forced out of the woods in which the foe was already advanced near to the edge of the field and probably would, in the flush of success, make a sudden dash forward to complete his victory. The utmost coolness was manifested by the men while thus awaiting an opportunity to meet the enemy, and which would, I doubt not, have been proved in the hardest of fighting had the enemy advanced from his cover. He was satisfied, however, with some practice in sharpshooting, by which several of my men were wounded, with frequent unsuccessful attempts to hit the officers without rushing upon the force which stood ready to receive him. Nearly two hours passed thus, when orders came from General Smith to move down the turnpike and report to Brigadier-General Ames for orders. Doing so, I had taken the road to Ware Bottom Church, where I had just learned General Ames held his headquarters, when I was overtaken by General Ames' chief of staff, who, learning my destination, directed me to countermarch to the pike, where Brigadier-General Martindale, as General Ames' superior, ordered me to a position lower down and near the pike, where I formed line of battle, threw forward my skirmishers, and rested the men for half an hour, when orders came to move to and down the pike a short distance and connect my left with the right of two regiments which were to advance also. I moved according to directions, but some time elapsed before I could find the co-operating force, and

then it was a mile or more down the pike and half a mile from it in the woods. Here my picket-line was for a short distance on the pike, then obliquely to the left and made the connection, a force of the enemy constantly near, whose scouts were prowling about my line. At dark I was ordered to draw in my line, move to General Ames' headquarters (in the woods somewhere), and return to camp. Guided by Adjutant Fox and Lieutenant Adams, who had been over the ground, I succeeded in passing unmolested through the woods, while, if I had moved down the pike as intimated, I should have come in collision with an overpowering force of the enemy before reaching assistance. I finally arrived at camp inside the intrenchments at 9.30 p. m., with all nearly broken down by fatigue and the constant watchfulness required during the previous ten days. I am thus minute in this report because I have during the whole time been disconnected from the command of the colonel commanding the brigade, acting under orders from some seven different generals and brigade commanders.

It affords me great pleasure to say that too much praise cannot be accorded to nearly every man of my command during the time reported, all, recruits as well as veterans, behaving coolly, nobly, under every circumstance of danger and hardship in which they were placed. If less distinguished in battle than some other regiments, I am sure it is only from lack of opportunity rather than of courage or desire. Many expressed a strong wish "to wade in" while they lay in line of battle in the field at the Half-Way House. It is unnecessary to report to the colonel commanding the brigade the conduct of the officers of my command while detached from under his personal observation, as he is sufficiently acquainted with them to judge for himself how well they would act under danger and hardship.

A list of the casualties received has been sent to the brigade headquarters.

Respectfully submitted.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. SPOFFORD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. CHARLES B. AMORY,
Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Brig., Terry's Division.

No. 26.

Reports of Col. Francis A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 7-16.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH REGT. MASSACHUSETTS VOLS.,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with orders from division headquarters, the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, under my command, took its position under arms in the Third Brigade, Col. H. M. Plaisted, Eleventh Maine Volunteers, commanding, at 8 a. m. May 7, and shortly afterward took up the line of march toward the railroad connecting Petersburg and

Richmond, which was reached at about 3 p. m. My regiment was formed on a wide and well-traveled road parallel with the railroad and separated from it by a narrow belt of brush and low wood and a meadow. These companies were sent into this wood to support a line of skirmishers. They soon sent back a report that the skirmishers already occupied the railroad, when, by direction of Colonel Plaisted, I sent my pioneers to destroy as much of it as possible. Previous to this the poles of a telegraph running along the road were cut down, the wire removed, and the insulators broken. At this time the right wing was sent a short distance to the rear to guard a cross-road. There was in that vicinity a saw-mill and a large quantity of lumber, which they burned. After having occupied the main road for about an hour and a half, the left wing was ordered by Colonel Plaisted to rejoin the right, after calling in the detached companies, which was done. As these companies left the railroad a large force of the enemy appeared upon a hill beyond and poured a heavy volley into them, fortunately without effect. The pioneers report having torn up about 100 feet of rail before the order to fall back, and another line of telegraph. The bed of the road was very hard, and the tools which they had were of inferior quality; otherwise they would have accomplished more. They inform me that there was a large number of surplus rails and ties lying along the road. Soon after the regiment became reunited the brigade was dismissed and returned to camp. Only the detached companies were exposed to a direct fire, and I have therefore no casualties to report in my command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. OSBORN,
Colonel Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers.

Capt. CHARLES B. AMORY,
A. A. A. G., 3d Brig., 1st Div., 10th Army Corps.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH REGT. MASSACHUSETTS VOLS.,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 19, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the regiment under my command marched with the rest of Colonel Plaisted's brigade at noon on Thursday, May 12, and joined the rest of General Terry's division at a point on the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike about 3 miles distant from camp. It bivouacked at that place for the night.

Friday, May 13, it marched with General Terry's division by a circuitous route, crossing the railroad at Clover Hill Junction, and at 4 o'clock came in the rear of the enemy's works commanding the railroad and said to form part of the out-works of Fort Darling. Here the regiment was deployed to support the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers until the capture of the breast-works, which was speedily accomplished. A short time after taking possession of them the Twenty-fourth was ordered to their front to drive the enemy from a point of woods in which they had established themselves. The One hundredth New York Volunteers was on my left. I deployed a strong line of skirmishers, and after a short but sharp struggle, forced the enemy to retire. It then being dark I was

ordered to withdraw the regiment and establish a picket-line along the railroad. At 10 p. m. the regiment was relieved and bivouacked within the works.

Saturday a. m., May 14, marched with the rest of the troops to the attack of the second line; occupied a position in a field covered with low pines, my left resting on the railroad. In front was open field about 600 yards wide, on the opposite side of which were the enemy's skirmishers in great force under the shelter of a Virginia fence. Being ordered to deploy a strong line of skirmishers, I sent out four companies; after some skirmishing the line advanced rapidly and drove the enemy back to their works. In the course of the afternoon I was compelled to relieve the four companies and send others, they having expended both their strength and their ammunition; these companies also expended all their ammunition. I was supplied by Colonel Plaisted with enough to furnish the regiment with 60 rounds. Hardly had this been issued to the skirmishers when the enemy, stealing cautiously up through a thick undergrowth, made a rush upon them, but were repulsed with great loss. My regiment was relieved at 11 p. m., and bivouacked in the woods in rear of our position.

Sunday, May 15, the regiment was engaged in no operations.

Monday, May 16, the fighting commenced early in the morning. I was placed in reserve for Colonel Plaisted's brigade, but at about 10 a. m. was ordered to the right to support Hawley's brigade. On moving to the right, found the troops falling back in confusion, and could see no regiments of Hawley's brigade. Finding myself far in advance of any other organization, with both flanks exposed, and the enemy advancing rapidly, fell slowly back through the woods until I reached the brow of a hill in front of the works captured on Saturday.

Having been separated from my brigade I reported for orders to Brigadier-General Marston, who was at that point with one regiment. He posted the Twenty-fourth on the left of the Ninety-sixth New York Volunteers, where it remained until the whole of General Turner's division had passed to the rear; then rejoined Colonel Plaisted's brigade and marched to the rear, halting in the field in which we had bivouacked on Thursday night. An hour later was ordered forward again with the Tenth Connecticut Volunteers to the Half-Way House, formed line on the right of the turnpike, and remained an hour—a portion of the time under artillery fire. On being withdrawn from this position marched in the rear of the column back to the intrenchments, reaching camp about 8 p. m.

I deeply regret to report the loss of 3 valuable officers, who were instantly killed by musket-balls in the head while in the discharge of their duty. They were First Lieut. Mason A. Rea, Adjt. Charles G. Ward, and Second Lieut. Edgar Clough. Capt. John N. Partridge was also wounded in the head, but the wound is thought to be slight. The other casualties in my command were 4 enlisted men killed, 43 wounded, and 7 missing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. OSBORN,
Colonel Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers.

Capt. CHARLES B. AMORY,
A. A. A. G., 3d Brig., 1st Div., 10th Army Corps.

No. 27.

Reports of Col. George B. Dandy, One hundredth New York Infantry, of operations May 7 and June 1-2.

HEADQUARTERS 100TH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
In the Field, May 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part my regiment took in the attack made by the Third Brigade, Terry's division, on the enemy yesterday:

The design was to cut the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, and destroy as much of it as possible. It was understood, the enemy being in good defensive positions overlooking the railroad, that the movement to be successful must be masked as much as possible, consistent with the greatest celerity. The position of the brigade before the movement commenced was on an old road in a wood, the direction of the road being about northeast by southwest, while the railroad was north and south. I was directed by Colonel Plaisted, commanding the brigade, to make a detour, starting a little north of west, in order to take advantage of a wood which would mask the movement of the column.

I succeeded in getting through this wood with some difficulty, keeping Company I, Captain Brunck, deployed as skirmishers well to our right to warn us of the approach of the enemy in that direction. He marched and crossed the railroad, performed his duty with credit, and speaks well of the conduct of his officers and men. I finally emerged on a road running east and west, cutting vertically the Richmond turnpike, which at this point was about parallel with the railroad. On reaching the pike I found the woods in front, between the head of my column and the railroad, very difficult for skirmishers and impenetrable by any other description of troops. I therefore moved to the left on the turnpike until I found an open field, which, though swampy and cut up by small streams, was practicable for infantry. Across this field, under a brisk fire from the enemy, I carried my colors, and, crossing the railroad, rallied my men on a height overlooking the rebel position and within short range of their advanced rifle-pits. The brigade of Colonel Barton was in the mean time advancing on our left and rear. A portion of his brigade, the Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, overlapping my regiment, joined me on the heights and planted its colors near the colors of the One hundredth New York Volunteers. We maintained this position for about two hours, repelled two successive charges of the enemy on our position, and materially aided Colonel Barton's brigade on our left, the enemy pressing upon them being checked by our fire on his flanks. In the mean time my regiment and the remaining two regiments of the brigade were engaged in tearing up the railroad and destroying the telegraph lines, both on the turnpike and railroad. This having been accomplished to a considerable extent—as far as I could see in the Richmond direction—and understanding that one or more trestle bridges had been destroyed, the brigade withdrew in sufficient time to prevent a flanking movement of the enemy on our left, caused by the falling back of Barton's brigade, and retook the position from which the movement was made. The object of the movement was successfully accomplished, and as far as I was able to judge great damage inflicted on the railroad and telegraph lines.

Without intending to be invidious, I cannot refrain from mentioning, for their coolness and gallantry, the following-named officers, who came during the action under my immediate observation: Maj. D. D. Nash, Capt. Timothy Lynch, commanding the color company; Lieutenants Strivits, Adriance, Richardson, Sandrock, Peck (adjutant), Nichols, Pierson, McMann, Evans, and Howell. Doubtless the remaining officers of the regiment, judging from the reports that reached me, performed their duty well and gallantly, and I am only sorry that my duties, confining me mostly to one position, prevented me from bearing the testimony of an eyewitness to their good conduct. The same remark applies to the enlisted men who came under my eye; they stood well by their colors. Corporal Ball, Company G, acting principal musician, distinguished himself by taking a wounded man's gun and taking part in the engagement, in which he was wounded; also Musician Spencer Rose, Company E, a lad, who equipped himself with the arms of a dead man and took an active part. The color-sergeant, Donald D. McKay, Company C, and the color guard, also deserve notice for their zeal and gallantry during the day.

Upon the whole, the regiment did itself credit on the occasion of this engagement. Both the surgeon, Dr. Kittenger, and the chaplain, the Rev. J. B. Linn, followed the regiment under fire, and made the greatest exertions in the line of their respective duties; the first in caring for the wounded, and the second in removing them from the field.

I inclose herewith a list of casualties.*

GEO. B. DANDY,
Colonel One Hundredth New York Volunteers.

Capt. CHARLES B. AMORY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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CAMP ONE HUNDREDTH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
Near Bermuda Hundred, Va., June 4, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the attack made by the enemy on the picket-line of the First Division on the 2d of June, on which occasion I was general officer of the day. The following regiments were on picket, viz, Eleventh Maine on the right, Thirty-ninth Illinois, center, Seventh Connecticut on the left:

At about 10.30 p. m. June 1 the enemy opened with artillery, first on the picket-line and afterward on the intrenchments, and continued his fire about three-quarters of an hour. From that time until about 6 a. m. there was no firing of consequence on either side.

Between 6 and 7 o'clock on the morning of the 2d the enemy commenced an attack on the Seventh Connecticut near the extreme left of our line. The portion of the picket-line occupied by this regiment commences about 60 yards to the left of the road leading directly from Sally-Port No. 2. It runs through the woods in continuation of the general direction of the line at the center until it reaches an open field, here it is deflected to the rear for some dis-

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 13.

tance, forming a slightly obtuse angle, and again turns to the left through the open field. The left of the line is somewhat irregular and cut up by ravines. At two points in front of this line, viz, at the angle above mentioned and near the left, the rebel picket-line is not more than 25 yards distant from ours. The attack was made in greatest force at those two points, and our left flank turned by piercing the line at those places. The Seventh Connecticut having fallen back, the Thirty-ninth Illinois found itself attacked in flank and rear. Several squads of the Seventh having made their way through the woods and slashings to the headquarters of the picket-line, were posted in the woods on the left of the Thirty-ninth, and assisted in keeping the enemy at bay while the Thirty-ninth fell back by company to the rifle-pits held by their reserve. The attack was continued by the enemy along the line to the right in sufficient force to drive our whole picket force from its advanced rifle-pits, and a portion of the Thirty-ninth and Eleventh fell back as far as the open field in rear of the woods on the right; here they were rallied and the line reformed and pushed forward to the position now held. Rifle-pits were immediately constructed and skirmishers thrown forward into the woods. They found the enemy in line on the road in the woods running in rear of our former line, and his sharpshooters thrown forward in sufficient numbers to prevent any considerable advance of our troops. The enemy's artillery was heard moving on the road, and was evidently being placed in position to check our advance.

The attack was made in sufficient force to accomplish the object intended by the enemy, the occupation of our advanced line. Eight companies of the One hundredth New York Volunteers (300 men) and a detachment of 36 men of the Tenth Connecticut, reported to me at 10 a. m. They were employed as skirmishers and in digging rifle-pits.

Later in the day the Third New Hampshire, under Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton, gallantly retook a portion of the ground on our left, lost by the Seventh Connecticut in the morning, and the line now established is nearly the same as formerly, except at the center and on the right, where it is from 100 to 200 yards farther to the rear.

I inclose a list of casualties during the day. Eleventh Maine Volunteers: Killed, 3 enlisted men; wounded, 4 officers, 29 enlisted men; missing, 1 officer, 4 enlisted men; total, 5 officers, 36 enlisted men. Thirty-ninth Illinois Veteran Volunteers: Killed, 1 officer, 1 enlisted man; wounded, 1 officer, 17 enlisted men; missing, 12 enlisted men; total, 2 officers, 30 enlisted men. Seventh Connecticut Volunteers: Prisoners of war, 4 officers; killed, 3 enlisted men; wounded, 3 officers, 10 enlisted men; wounded and prisoners, 2 enlisted men; total, 7 officers, 92 enlisted men. Aggregate: Killed, 1 officer, 7 enlisted men; wounded, 8 officers, 56 enlisted men; prisoners, 4 officers, 77 enlisted men; missing, 1 officer, 16 enlisted men; wounded and prisoners, 2 enlisted men; total, 14 officers, 158 enlisted men.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

G. B. DANDY,
Colonel 100th New York Vols., General Officer of the Day.

Captain TERRY.

No. 28.

Report of Capt. Frank C. Brunck, One hundredth New York Infantry, of operations May 14.

CAMP ONE HUNDREDTH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
May 23, 1864.

COLONEL: According to your request, I submit the following report of the operations of the skirmish line of the One hundredth New York Volunteers, May 14, 1864:

At about 10 a. m. I was ordered to deploy my company (I) as skirmishers in front of the regiment, which I did, advancing them through a thick woods into a field partly covered with underbrush. Here I halted. Company H, Lieutenant Howell, was here ordered to my support, and deployed his company on my left. The line was again advanced to a fence in front of a large open field, which was about a quarter to half a mile in length. On the left of this field was a thick woods, and on the other end of the field was a rail fence. Both in the woods and behind the fence the enemy were posted in large numbers. There was also a large house and outbuildings just in front of this fence. Here the enemy had a piece of artillery in position. They afterward withdrew this and burnt the house. On the right of my line were the skirmishers of the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, and on my left the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts. The line remained behind this fence about an hour, continually exposed to the enemy's fire, when an advance was ordered. The men at once crossed the fence and went over the field at a double-quick, till about half way across, when the skirmishers on my right and left halted, so I ordered my men to lie down and open fire on the enemy, to advance slowly at the same time. It was not long before they (the enemy) showed signs of retreating, so I ordered the men to charge on the fence, which they did. The enemy fired a few shots and retreated to their works in great confusion. The right of my line advanced beyond the fence, but observing that the skirmishers of the Seventh Connecticut were falling back, I ordered them back to the rail fence. The Seventh Connecticut retired to the ruins of the house, which was to the right and rear of my line. The enemy observing, I suppose, this movement advanced out of their works and made a charge on us, but were driven back, I should judge, with considerable loss. They made three more attempts to retake the fence, but were repulsed each time. During the time I was skirmishing, I was re-enforced by Company K, Lieutenant Strivits; Company B, Lieutenant Pierson, and Company D, Lieutenant Sandrock. We took 3 prisoners. At about 7 p. m. I was relieved and took my company back to the reserves.

I have to speak in the highest terms of all the officers and men engaged. Lieutenant Hoyt, Company I, particularly distinguished himself by his bravery and coolness, and was mortally wounded during the action. The loss in my company was as follows:*

Your obedient servant,

FRANK C. BRUNCK,
Captain, One hundredth New York Volunteers.

Col. G. B. DANDY,
Comdg. One hundredth New York Vols.

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 2 officers wounded, and 3 enlisted men wounded and 1 missing.

No. 29.

Report of Capt. Alfred P. Rockwell, First Connecticut Battery, of operations May 9–10.

HDQRS. FIRST CONNECTICUT LIGHT BATTERY,
May 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the brigadier-general commanding, the following report of the operations of the First Connecticut Battery during the 9th and 10th instant:

In obedience to the orders of the general commanding, the battery was hitched up at 4 a. m. May 9, and moved forward in the place assigned it in the column of march immediately in the rear of the First Brigade, First Division, until we reached the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike road. At this point I detached the right section under Lieut. George Metcalf to take position upon this road about three-fourths of a mile from the cross-roads. About 11 o'clock I moved these two sections of the battery down the turnpike toward Petersburg to the point where it crosses the railway and there halted. During the night the guns were posted in the road at the point commanding the road and railway. The following morning the battery was ordered to move back along the turnpike, and about 9 a. m. it commenced moving in the rear of the Second Brigade. As we approached the cross-roads rapid firing was heard near the position in which my section was posted the day before. In obedience to the orders of the general commanding, I at once took the four guns with me rapidly forward to the cross-roads and up that road to the left, a few hundred yards, into the open field, where Lieutenant Metcalf with his section had for some time been actively engaged with the enemy. Finding him nearly out of ammunition, I ordered him to fall back to the turnpike and immediately came in battery in the field and opened upon the enemy, who were firing slowly from a battery of 12-pounders. The enemy appeared to have at least six guns in detached sections, one section posted about 800 yards in my front, commanding the narrow cross-road and the other two sections, giving me a cross-fire from the right, and also down the turnpike. The section in my immediate front twice ceased firing and changed position, whether or not forced to do so by the fire of my guns I cannot say. Soon after the guns were in position firing commenced between our skirmishers and the enemy and increased. He twice charged from our left front and endeavored to carry the position, but was gallantly repulsed by my infantry support. I would take this occasion to express my appreciation of their efficient support. The enemy pressed hard upon our right but were there repulsed also. When his fire ceased I fired slowly until the order came to retire gradually, when I fell back to a new position and remained there until the infantry were ready to retire; then I withdrew the battery slowly down the road to the turnpike and took a new position with one section in the road on the left of Gibbs' battery. The battery was in the field from an hour and a half to two hours, the greater part of the time under the fire of artillery and musketry more or less severe. In the latter part of the afternoon I moved back to camp within the intrenchments, as ordered by General Terry. The right section was detached and under command of Lieutenant Metcalf during the greater part of two days. He reports that he remained in position on the turnpike about 1 mile from the

cross-roads till 5.30 p. m. 9th instant. About 4 o'clock the enemy with fire of musketry and artillery drove in the colored cavalry at the front, which fell back in disorder down the road into the low ground in advance of the section, and soon afterward went to the rear. He immediately opened upon the enemy, checked their advance, and kept up a rapid and steady fire till their artillery ceased firing; then learning that they were endeavoring to turn the left flank and cut off his retreat, he fell slowly back about a quarter of a mile, and subsequently took up a position about 300 yards to the rear of the cross-road, where he remained undisturbed.

At 6.30 a. m. Colonel Voris ordered him up the cross-road to the left, which position he held, keeping the enemy in check by a rapid fire at intervals till I relieved him with the two other sections. He then withdrew to the turnpike, as I ordered, and reported to Captain Langdon on the right, and was immediately ordered by Colonel Howell into a position near Ware Bottom Church, where he remained till evening, when he was ordered back to camp.

I desire to call attention to the courage and good conduct of my lieutenants—Metcalf, Clinton, Bliss, and Smith—and to the excellent behavior under fire of the non-commissioned officers and most of the men of my command. Where so many did their duty it is difficult to give preference to any one. My loss was 3 wounded. Herewith I give a full list as required. I had also 2 horses killed.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED P. ROCKWELL,
Captain, Comdg. First Connecticut Light Battery.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Div., Tenth Army Corps.

No. 30.

Report of Capt. Zenas C. Warren, Fifth New Jersey Battery, of operations May 10.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH NEW JERSEY BATTERY,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Fifth New Jersey Battery during yesterday, May 10:

About 9 a. m. Colonel Howell ordered me to move out two sections of my battery on the road leading to the right from the church, as the enemy were reported to be advancing in strong force in that direction. I arrived on the ground about 9.30 a. m., and placed my guns in position under the direction of Captain Langdon. I immediately opened on the enemy with shell and spherical case-shot, and, with the assistance of the rest of the artillery, succeeded in checking his advance and forced him to retire. My battery fired altogether 155 rounds of ammunition. I have the pleasure of being able to report no casualties, except a slight wound to 1 horse.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

Z. C. WARREN,
Captain, Comdg. Fifth New Jersey Battery.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 31.

Report of Capt. Loomis L. Langdon, Battery M, First U. S. Artillery, of operations May 5–10.

HDQRS. LIGHT BATTY. M, FIRST U. S. ARTILLERY,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 12, 1864.

SIR: Pursuant to instructions from headquarters, I have the honor to report the movement of my battery (M, First U. S. Artillery):

I arrived at Fort Monroe, Va., from Jacksonville, Fla., and joined General Butler's expedition May 5, 1864. On the 6th instant sailed up the James River to Bermuda Hundred. On the 7th of May my battery debarked and encamped at Mr. Watkins' farm. On the 8th instant marched 5 miles to Mr. Hatcher's place; subsequently moved 2 miles farther. On the 9th marched to Ware Bottom Church, when one, the right, section, reported to Colonel Osborn, the left advancing to the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike; in the evening left section joined the right at Ware Bottom Church, where we parked, Colonel Howell soon after assuming command of the extreme right of the line resting on James River, or Howlett's. May 10, got battery into position, commanding all approaches, at daylight. At 8 o'clock the enemy attacked our line of skirmishers under Colonel Voris, who held their position for some time and then were steadily driven back until they came within range, when at about 12 m. my guns opened fire over the woods at the advancing columns of the enemy, throwing spherical case and shell, and from the position of the battery their (the enemy's) advance was almost immediately checked. At about 4 p. m. my firing ceased, the enemy having retired, leaving Colonel Howell the victor of a hotly-contested field. The subalterns and men of my battery deserve great credit for the coolness, energy, and interest displayed throughout the entire day. At 8 p. m. we received order to retire to within the intrenchments. I take great pleasure in stating that no casualties whatever have occurred in my battery.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. L. LANGDON,
Capt. First U. S. Arty., Comdg. Batty. M, First U. S. Arty.

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. 1st Div., 10th Army Corps.

No. 32.

Report of Brig. Gen. John W. Turner, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, of operations May 12–16.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, May 17, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part my division of the Tenth Corps took in the operations of the 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th of May:

In compliance with instructions from headquarters of the Tenth Corps, to hold my division in readiness to move at 4 a. m. on the

12th, under the orders of Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, I reported to that officer through a staff officer at 3 a. m., and moved my division in obedience to his instructions on to the road leading to Ware Bottom Church, taking the right of General Weitzel's command. General Brooks was to take up his march on my right, but, on reaching the vicinity of Ware Bottom Church, it was determined to move me forward on the road leading by Howlett's place, placing my column on the right in order of march. Advancing by this road, I reached Redwater Creek about noon, and, finding myself in presence of the enemy, I took a position in rear of this stream and opened a communication with General Weitzel, who was on the turnpike on my left. Some skirmishing occurred during the afternoon, in which I sustained a loss of 32 men killed, wounded, and missing from the Third New York Volunteers. Before dark I advanced my line nearly half a mile with my skirmishers on Proctor's Creek, in which position I remained all night and until noon of the 13th. I then, in obedience to instructions, moved by my left flank to the turnpike and across Proctor's Creek, taking up a position on the left of General Brooks, and to the left of the pike, in a dense growth of timber and underbrush. I got into position about dark. The Eleventh Maine and Sixth Connecticut Volunteers were here added to my command. The skirmishers along my entire front immediately engaged the enemy, who were strongly intrenched in an open field in my front. Shortly after daylight next morning, it being reported that the enemy had abandoned his position, the whole line advanced about half a mile, when our skirmishers developed the enemy beyond a belt of timber in our front and behind another series of intrenchments. Line was formed at the skirts of the timber, and in this position I remained during the 15th and 16th, General Terry, of the Tenth Corps, being on my left, my skirmishers engaging the enemy most of the time.

Early on the morning of the 16th I received an order from Major-General Gillmore to hold my division in readiness to assault the enemy in my front. My skirmishers were then hotly engaged, and the enemy's artillery in my front did much damage. About this time I received notice from General Brooks that the right of General Smith's command was seriously attacked by the enemy, and that he (Brooks) was moving troops from his left to resist it, which would leave a gap on my right. I immediately sent word to Colonel Barton, commanding the brigade on my right, to close into his right and keep his connection with General Brooks, which he did. About 7.30 I received another notice from General Brooks that the enemy had gained some advantage over Weitzel, and that he was sending more troops to his assistance. At the same time I received an order from Major-General Butler to send a regiment to report to Major-General Smith. In obedience to this order, the One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers was sent, being the only regiment remaining in the second line of the Second Brigade. The others had all been used in extending my first line; and immediately the Third New York and One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers, the only two regiments remaining in the second line of my First Brigade on my left, were rapidly marched to the right to fill the gap made by the removal of General Brooks' troops. Before reaching their position, however, the enemy had advanced in considerable numbers, and was already in possession of the ground, and was pouring a galling flank and reverse fire on my

left wing. The Third New York, under Lieutenant-Colonel Floyd, gallantly advanced and drove the enemy from this position, and formed line on the right of the Forty-eighth New York, forming the right of Barton's brigade, the One hundred and forty-second New York advancing in support of the Third New York, formed on its right, closing again my line with General Brooks. Feeling the importance of keeping my connection with General Brooks, lest the enemy should throw himself in between us, I withdrew a regiment (the One hundred and seventeenth New York) from the left of my line, and held it in reserve on my right, immediately sending word to General Gillmore what I had done. Shortly after this I received an order from General Gillmore to push everything to the right and attack the enemy, who were engaging Smith on his flank. Before disposition could be made for this the enemy charged my line on the left of Barton's brigade. The Sixth Connecticut Regiment, posted here, broke and fled, carrying with it part of the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania, and the enemy succeeded in reaching our lines and making some prisoners. But met in front by the Fortieth Massachusetts, under Colonel Henry, and on the flank by the Forty-seventh New York, Lieutenant-Colonel MacDonald, also by the head of General Terry's division, which was then coming up to the rear of my left, and the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania being rallied by Major Eddy, Forty-seventh New York Volunteers, of my staff, they poured in a volley which soon drove the enemy back in disorder, leaving all their prisoners.

While staying the progress of the enemy at this point, a further movement of General Brooks to the right had exposed a large gap, extending into the woods on my right, into which the enemy immediately thrust himself and threatened the capture of the One hundred and forty-second New York. Receiving instructions at this juncture, about 10 o'clock, from Major-General Gillmore to fall back and take the road leading from the left of our position to the turnpike, my line was withdrawn and formed in rear of General Terry's division. The One hundred and forty-second New York was happily extricated by its commander, Colonel Curtis, under a severe front and flank fire. I subsequently marched my division and formed again to the right of the turnpike and rear of Proctor's Creek, and late in the afternoon retired to my camp within the intrenchments.

I am much indebted to my staff for the service they have rendered me during these operations, particularly during the engagement of the 16th. To Major Eddy is mainly due the rallying of the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania. Accompanying this is a brief report of my brigade commanders. As soon as copies are made, a list of casualties will be rendered. My loss for the five days amounts in the First Brigade to 42 killed, 259 wounded, and 83 missing; in the Second Brigade, 26 killed, 181 wounded, and 10 missing; making a grand total of 601 killed, wounded, and missing. The Sixth Connecticut, temporarily attached to the division, lost 82 killed, wounded, and missing.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.

Brig. Gen. R. S. FOSTER,
Chief of Staff, Tenth Army Corps.

No. 33.

Report of Brig. Gen. John W. Turner, U. S. Army, of operations of the First Brigade, May 9–10.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 11, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part Colonel Alford's brigade, of my division, took in the operations of the 9th and 10th:

In compliance with instructions, I moved from camp at 4.30 on the morning of the 9th, taking the road leading to Chester Station, on the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. My instructions were to follow immediately after General Ames' division till he should turn off to the left. I was then to proceed on and strike the railroad on the right of General Ames' position and near Chester Station. This was accomplished without opposition from the enemy, my forces arriving at Chester Station a little after 10 a. m. Work was immediately commenced destroying the station buildings, railroad track, and telegraph wire. Shortly after my arrival orders were received through Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster, chief of staff for Major-General Gillmore, to move rapidly with my command down the railroad toward Swift Creek, with the view of forming on the right of the Eighteenth Army Corps in front of that stream. My column reached the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike about 3 p. m., and was held in column on that road until nearly dark, when it was placed in support of Heckman's brigade, of Wentzel's division, of the Eighteenth Corps, which was then engaged with the enemy immediately in front of Swift Creek. The brigade was held in this position until 8.30 o'clock next morning, when it was ordered to relieve General Heckman's brigade. It got into position about 10 o'clock, and shortly after I was ordered by Major-General Gillmore to retire, and that my forces would constitute the rear guard. This was accomplished without attracting the attention of the enemy or his discovering our movement till we had withdrawn some 2 miles to the rear. No attempt was made at pursuit. The brigade reached camp at 8.30 p. m. on the 10th. Two casualties only occurred.

I will here mention that as my pickets were returning from the line of Swift Creek a flag of truce was presented by the enemy, which being received by the officer on outpost without my orders, and discovering our retrograde movement, I deemed it justifiable to detain it for a few hours till our movement had been accomplished. The flag bore only a verbal message for the parole of wounded prisoners and the burial of their dead, which was forwarded for the action of the major-general commanding. Before an answer was received, however, from him the communication borne by the flag was withdrawn in consequence of its detention and a protest entered. The flag was detained till the information of our movements to the enemy was of no longer any consequence, when it was relieved, which was about 4 p. m. I will make further mention that the enemy in no wise slackened his fire from his battery enfilading the turnpike when his flag was presented, and his projectiles fell in immediate proximity when it was received.

I forward herewith the report of Col. S. M. Alford, commanding brigade, engaged in the operations.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.

Brig. Gen. R. S. FOSTER,
Chief of Staff, Tenth Army Corps.

No. 34.

Reports of Col. Samuel M. Alford, Third New York Infantry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 9–16.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that pursuant to instructions from headquarters Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, this brigade

left camp on the morning of the 9th of May, 1864, at 4 o'clock, taking up a line of march to the front, scouring the country as we advanced with skirmishers. At 10.30 a. m. arrived at Chester Station, on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, and commenced destroying the railroad and telegraph wires, under direction of Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner, commanding division. Having accomplished our object at this point, we marched to the left, on the line of railroad, and at 3.30 p. m. arrived near Swift Creek bridge and formed the brigade in support of General Heckman's brigade, where we remained until the next morning at 10.30 o'clock, when we were ordered to the front, relieving General Heckman's brigade, and remained about one and one-half hours, when we received orders to retire and cover the withdrawal of all the forces. We arrived in camp at 8.30 p. m., with casualties of but 2 men slightly wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. ALFORD,
Colonel Third New York Vols., Comdg. Brigade.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to forward a brief report of the operations of this brigade for the past four days:

In conformity to orders from division headquarters, the brigade left camp at 4 a. m., 12th instant, passing our line of intrenchments about 4 miles, and forming line of battle near the house of Mrs. Friend, the right resting on the James River, the Third New York Volunteers being advanced as skirmishers, the casualties amounting that day to a total of killed, wounded, and missing of 22. Bivouacked in line of battle. On the 13th the brigade marched forward to near the enemy's front line of defense, our skirmishers being immediately engaged, but without any particular effect, the enemy having fallen back from his first line. On the morning of the 14th we advanced and took possession of their first line of defense, forming line with our right resting upon Barton's brigade. Continual skirmishing through the day and following night. The day of the 15th was passed in the same way. On the morning of the 16th, during a dense fog, our line was attacked in force, but held until ordered to retire. We returned in good order, losing no persons (except a few wounded), and reached camp about 8 p. m. Total number of casualties during the four days about 312, in killed, wounded, and missing, not including those of the Sixth Connecticut Volunteers, who were temporarily attached to the brigade. I regret to report Lieutenant-Colonel Floyd and Captain Couch, of the Third New York Volunteers, both severely wounded. A more complete report will be furnished as soon as possible.

Total casualties in the brigade during the operations: Killed, 33; wounded, 207; missing, 63; total, 303.

I am, captain, very respectfully, &c.,

S. M. ALFORD,
Colonel Third New York Vols., Comdg. First Brigade.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 35.

Report of Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 12–16.

HDQRS. FORTIETH MASSACHUSETTS VOL. INFTY.,
May 18, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In accordance with instructions from division headquarters, I have the honor to forward the following report:

Friday, May 12, 1864, the Fortieth Massachusetts, of the First Brigade, Second Division, left camp at daylight, and encamped for the night on the south side of Proctor's Creek. May 13, moved to the north side and formed the left of the second line of the brigade. May 14, advanced at daylight, and occupied till evening the second line; at dark relieved the Third New York on the first line, and took command of the picket-line, composed of the Sixth Connecticut and Fortieth Massachusetts. May 15, performed picket duty.

May 16, at daylight the Sixth Connecticut were driven in by the enemy. The regiment was then taken by me, and after some fighting, the original picket-line was established. When the fog lifted, Colonel Hawley, commanding brigade on my left, reported that the enemy occupied a rifle-pit on his right, and were enfilading his line; two companies of my regiment charged the pit, taking several prisoners, and occupied it. Later in the morning, the left gave way, and the enemy came pouring in, turning my flank; to prevent which, I withdrew my regiment from the first line, and formed them in line of battle, some 100 yards in rear. The line which remained (Barton's), received a flank and oblique rear fire, broke, and gave way.

As soon as the rebels had formed, I charged them with my regiment, causing them to break and run. The first line was then established, and remained so till the right gave way. I then withdrew my regiment, posting them in rear of the enemy's rifle-pits, placing skirmishers on the crest of the hill and there remained till all the troops had passed. My skirmishers were then withdrawn, and with my regiment I joined my brigade and proceeded to camp, arriving about 8 p. m. Lieutenant Weare, by a misunderstanding, remained behind with 30 men as skirmishers. After waiting about two hours after we left, he came out of the woods, and finding the rebels in force, he scattered his men and with them escaped and joined his command. He was summoned to surrender, and pursued by the rebels. He deserves credit for his coolness. Privates Cosgrove, Company F, and Rankin, Company C, each killed, while the enemy were advancing, 3 men with shots, and then used the butts of their carbines, braining their fourth man. The list of casualties* I have already forwarded.

I am, captain, very respectfully your obedient servant,

GUY V. HENRY,
Colonel Fortieth Massachusetts Vol. Infty.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Div., Tenth Corps.

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 14.

No. 36.

Report of Col. Harrison S. Fairchild, Eighty-ninth New York Infantry, of operations May 9.

HDQRS. EIGHTY-NINTH REGT. NEW YORK VOLS.,
In the Field, Va., May 11, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with your note dated this day, I respectfully forward the following statement:

Our brigade moved from the camp left in front. When arriving near the turnpike, by order of Colonel Alford, I deployed three companies as skirmishers and flankers. After crossing the pike, advancing toward the railroad, I was detached from the brigade and ordered to advance near the railroad, and deploy men as flankers, and, with the balance of my force, hold the position at all hazards. Shortly after I was ordered to take a new position by General Turner, and advance a half mile north, and deploy four companies as skirmishers, and to hold the position between the railroad and pike at all hazard. I took position (after advancing my skirmishers) near a farm-house with my reserve, had deployed and advanced the companies, forming a line from the railroad to the pike and 1¼ miles to the front, when I received an order to call in my force and join the brigade as soon as possible; the order was sent by Lieutenant Weaver, acting assistant adjutant-general to Colonel Alford. I immediately dispatched two messengers to the right and left of the line, and as soon as the four companies had returned commenced the march, conducted by Lieutenant Weaver. When we reached the railroad, at the water-tank, General Terry's division was on the move, and one regiment was on the railroad. Not to interfere with his column I marched around the water-tank on the right of the road, and moved forward rapidly, hoping to pass his column, but the road was too narrow, and availing myself of an opening in the column I recrossed and took the bank and pushed on, hoping to pass at a gate one-half mile ahead. When I arrived at the gate, General Terry was on the opposite bank, and the head of his column had passed on the railroad. I halted in order to let them pass, when General Terry halted a company of engineers, and rode down to me, and said he was waiting for me, and he had opened his line to let me pass. I immediately crossed the railroad to the opposite bank, and kept the field until I was forced to take the railroad, on account of a deep ravine. Lieutenant Weaver conducted me to a point where our brigade was at a halt, and there left me. I had made a forced march of 3 miles with men who were exhausted with skirmish duty. As soon as I halted my regiment the brigade moved. The officers of my regiment came to me, and said they could not go on without rest, and 16 men fell on the field with sunstroke. I made details and had these men carried to the rear, and water brought, dispatched my adjutant for ambulances, and detailed men to take care of the sick. During this time some officer came to me and requested to know if I would move soon. I answered him I would move in a few minutes, but I did not wish to detain his column. He could pass me, and I would follow him, which I did until I came to the junction of the railroad and pike, [where] I took the field. I halted for a moment to let the column pass, and then joined the brigade on the hill on the pike, the other column going down the railroad. I am not aware of halting my regiment, except to allow other troops to pass without interfering with them. My aim was to keep out of the way. The only fault.

if any, was an act of humanity in providing for 16 men with sunstroke, and in doing so, I did not occupy more time than was necessary to rest men exhausted by severe picket duty. When I joined the brigade they were at a halt and remained so for two hours.

Yours, very respectfully,

H. S. FAIRCHILD,
Colonel Eighty-ninth Regiment New York Volunteers.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, Tenth Army Corps.

No. 37.

Report of Col. N. Martin Curtis, One hundred and forty-second New York Infantry, of operations May 13-16.

HDQRS. 142D REGIMENT NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 19, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with orders received in your communication of the 17th instant, I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of my command during the four days, commencing on the 13th and ending on the 16th of May instant:

My regiment left camp inside of the lines about 4.30 a. m. on the 13th instant, and moved with the First Brigade, Second Division, up the river road between the Richmond turnpike and James River. On reaching the road leading to the Howlett house the five right companies of my regiment were detached, under command of Lieut. Col. A. M. Barney, and sent to skirmish the country toward the river, one of which companies took and destroyed a small sloop belonging to the enemy. These companies rejoined the regiment when near Brandy Creek, and were deployed as skirmishers, the remainder of the regiment acting as support to the line. I remained on the cross-road running from James River to the turnpike near this creek, doing picket duty on the extreme right, until the afternoon of the 15th instant, when my regiment was ordered to report to the commander of the First Brigade, Second Division, at the front, where I arrived at about 4 p. m., and was detained in rear of the brigade as support until the following day at about 7 a. m., when I received orders from the brigade commander to follow the Third New York Volunteers, and while on the march I received orders from General Turner in person to form my regiment in line in front of the barracks and on the left of the Third New York Volunteers, which was done accordingly. I remained in this position some fifteen minutes under a galling fire from the enemy and suffering some loss in wounded, and was then ordered to advance to the edge of the woods and occupy the rifle-pits on the extreme right of the Second Division. I moved into this position and at once advanced a line of skirmishers in the front of my regiment. Soon after occupying this position I received orders from General Turner to hold it at all hazards. About this time a force of the enemy was discovered moving to my right and rear, and opened fire on my line from their skirmishers, of which fact I notified General Turner, but receiving no further orders, sent a second and third time by Maj. N. G. Axtell, of my regiment, to inform the general that my regiment was in great danger of being outflanked and a portion cut off. I then received orders to face by the rear rank and retire in line, but having advanced a few paces in obedi-

ence to this order, was opened on by a line of the enemy on my right and rear at about 500 yards, upon which I gave the command to move at double-quick, which, from the destructive character of the enemy's fire and roughness of the ground, caused the regiment to break in confusion. However, on reaching the earth-works, they rallied and returned the enemy's fire in good style, and drove them to cover. The fire from the rear being very destructive I found it impracticable to reform at this place, and ordered a farther retreat to the woods on the left of the earth-works, where I formed in line and advanced skirmishers. By order of General Terry, I retired from this position and again formed on the hill across the ravine, where I remained a short time and was ordered to retire with the brigade across the turnpike, where we remained in line some two hours, with two companies as skirmishers, when orders were received to return to camp, which I entered at 8 p. m. Every order received by me was executed by the regiment, and I forbear to particularize or specially name any one where all behaved so well.

My loss during the period stated is as follows: Seven enlisted men killed, 3 officers and 49 enlisted men wounded, and 22 enlisted men missing.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. M. CURTIS,
Colonel, Commanding.

Lieut. JOHN E. SHEPARD,
Acting Assistant Inspector-General.

No. 38.

Reports of Col. William B. Barton, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 7–15.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in accordance with instructions from division headquarters, I yesterday morning reported with my command to Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, commanding Tenth Army Corps, and was by him directed to report to Brigadier-General Brooks, of that corps, under whose command I moved out some 3 miles on the Petersburg dirt road. I was there ordered by General Brooks to advance in the direction of the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, nearly due west, which I was to reach, if possible, and destroy. At this time the enemy's line of skirmishers was in full view on an open field near the supposed line of the railroad, the exact position of which I was unable to ascertain definitely. Our advance soon developed one of the positions occupied by the enemy on commanding ground near the crossing of the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike with the railroad.

In accordance with positive orders of Brigadier-General Brooks, I moved by the flank covered by a strong skirmishing force from the Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, and did not form line of battle until I had crossed the open space and the skirmishers were hotly engaged, and the enemy's artillery fire had become quite heavy and annoying. The difficulties of the ground, as we proceeded, were of the most discouraging character, the woods being almost impenetrable and much obstructed by fallen trees and strong fences. It was also

very hilly, the bottom lands being soft and boggy. Moreover, I discovered that the railroad made a short turn to the right and was consequently compelled to change my direction of march. Arriving within 200 yards of the railroad, I found in its front an open road, a very high and strong fence skirted by thick underbrush, a ditch some 2 feet wide and 3 feet deep, with a belt of open, marshy ground. These were all swept by an enfilading and direct fire of artillery and infantry. My men advanced over these obstructions and through this heavy fire, carrying the railroad embankment and a hill beyond it, on which the enemy were strongly posted under cover, planting their colors on the crest, although entirely unsupported by artillery. This position we held, although flanked on our left, until directed by General Brooks to retreat, which we did slowly, bringing all our wounded and as many of the dead as possible. Meanwhile we had cut three several lines of telegraph in many places and destroyed several hundred yards of railroad, tearing up the rails and burning the ties. A saw-mill with a large amount of sawed lumber was also burned.

I learn from reliable sources that the enemy's loss in one single regiment was 60 killed. Inclosed I send a list of casualties,* which amount to 196, including several officers. I desire to commend in the strongest manner the conduct of my command on this occasion. I was never before engaged where there were so many difficulties of ground to overcome, and to crown all, the heat was extremely oppressive, many men actually falling in the ranks from sunstroke, and all, at the conclusion of the day's work, being completely exhausted.

My thanks are also due to Capt. W. L. Lockwood, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, acting assistant inspector-general; Lieut. C. Hale, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. F. J. Magee, Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, aide-de-camp, and Lieut. F. D. Barnum, One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, aide-de-camp, of my staff, whose duties were well performed under most difficult and trying circumstances.

The wounded were promptly and carefully cared for under the directions of Surg. J. L. Mulford, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, chief medical officer of the brigade.

Total casualties of the brigade during the operations: Killed, 14; wounded, 152; missing, 30.

Very respectfully, captain, your obedient servant,

W. B. BARTON,

Colonel Forty-eighth New York Vols., Comdg. Brigade.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the brigade under my command from the 12th to the 16th, inclusive:

My first line of battle was formed on the 12th, on the right of Weitzel's division, Eighteenth Corps, on the ridge of hills near the house of Mrs. Friend in rear of the turnpike, and reaching nearly

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 14.

to the James River. The troops bivouacked in this position during the night of the 12th, and at 12 m. on the 13th moved to the turnpike and went into position in front of the enemy's works, on the extreme right of the Tenth Corps, joining the left of the Eighteenth. In accordance with the orders of the division commander, I threw forward a strong line of skirmishers, which was constantly engaged with the enemy, until daylight revealed the fact that their first line of works had been evacuated during the night. The fact was at once reported and the works entered by the skirmishers, who were soon followed by the main body, which then took position in front of the enemy's second line, two regiments being held in reserve about 300 yards in rear. Heavy skirmishing followed, continuing during the 14th, the enemy meanwhile using his artillery freely. On the morning of the 15th, my right flank having been exposed by the withdrawal of Brooks' division, of the Eighteenth Corps, the enemy got upon that flank, and although attacking vigorously was handsomely repulsed. I was then re-enforced by the Third and One hundred and forty-second Regiments New York Volunteers, of the First Brigade. Meanwhile the One hundred and seventeenth had been relieved from my left, and Colonel Henry deeming himself in a precarious situation, owing to the retreat of the Sixth Connecticut, also withdrew his regiment, the Fortieth Massachusetts. This opened my left, which I at once reported to Brigadier-General Turner, commanding Second Division. Before I could hear from him in reply, the enemy appeared in force on both flanks, displaying three battle-flags on the left and the same number on the right, and attacking fiercely, the fire on the extreme right being on the flank and in reverse. At this time I was near the center of the line, when my left suddenly gave way, but was at once rallied, and, returning to its old position, succeeded in temporarily repulsing the enemy, recapturing most of the prisoners and taking a number in return. I was then directed to retreat, which I succeeded in doing in better order than could have been expected under a very heavy fire, bringing off most of the dead and wounded.

Inclosed I send a list of casualties* amounting to 217, including officers, 2 of whom, among my most valuable, were killed.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. BARTON,
Col. Forty-eighth New York Vols., Comdg. Second Brig.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Div., Tenth Corps.

ADDENDA

Itinerary of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, May 4-31.†

May 4.—Brigade left Gloucester Point, Va., and proceeded to Bermuda Hundred, on the James River, joining the forces under Major-General Butler, Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith [Q. A. Gillmore] commanding the corps and Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner commanding the division.

May 7.—The brigade was placed temporarily under the orders of Brigadier-General Brooks, who directed Colonel Barton to advance on the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. Facing the brigade

* Nominal list omitted. † From return for May.

were almost impenetrable roads, high fences, ditches, both deep and wide, with a belt of soft marsh in front of the railroad embankment. These difficulties were all well surmounted and the railroad, though swept by a direct and enfilading fire of artillery and infantry, successfully carried, a large portion of the track torn up, and the ties, with a saw-mill and a large quantity of sawed lumber, burned. The position was held until the troops were ordered by General Brooks to retire, which they did very deliberately, carrying off their dead and wounded. The casualties in this engagement amounted to 196, including several officers.

May 12.—Skirmishing with the enemy.

May 13.—At daylight occupied his first line of works near Drewry's Bluff.

May 14.—Heavy skirmishing with artillery fire during the entire day.

May 15.—The enemy attacked the brigade's right flank and were handsomely repulsed, after which, both flanks becoming exposed through the withdrawal of troops, he attacked in force both right and left, showing on each flank three battle-flags. The left suddenly gave way, but was immediately rallied and returned to its former position, temporarily repulsing the enemy, recapturing many prisoners, and taking a number in return, when orders came to retire, which were successfully carried out under a heavy fire, bringing off most of their dead and wounded. Casualties, 217, including many valuable officers.

May 16 *to* 27, inclusive, constantly engaged at the front, erecting breast-works and acting as reserve.

May 28.—Left Bermuda Hundred, crossing the Appomattox River on pontoons same night, and marched to City Point.

May 29.—Left City Point per steamer in the afternoon and arrived at Fort Monroe on the morning of the 30th; from thence proceeded to the White House, Va., on the Pamunkey River.

May 31.—Disembarked and at once received marching orders, its designation being changed from Second Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, to First Brigade, Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps.

No. 39.

Report of Lieut. John H. George, Fourth New Jersey Battery, of operations May 10.

BERMUDA, VA., *May* 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in accordance to your orders, issued and delivered to me at 2 a. m. May 10, I proceeded with my section to report as directed to Major Butler for duty on outpost. Having found the officer designated at a point near the outer intrenchments covering our front, I awaited his orders.

Under his directions I marched my command to a point upon the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike, accompanied by two companies of the One hundred and sixty-ninth Regiment New York Volunteers,

at which point I was halted by Colonel Voris, commanding the forces of that line, who immediately designated a point upon the turnpike, where I placed my guns in position, bearing directly upon the road, supported by the companies of infantry which had marched with me.

After having inspected my position, I found that no vedettes or pickets were posted in my front, and fearing that the very exposed position of my guns would draw upon them a quick and heavy attack, I requested the officers commanding my supports to post a line of pickets covering my front, and for the purpose of observing the movements of the enemy. A line was established in a very irregular and unsafe manner, the men composing it retiring before they had attacked our position. The first indications of the presence of the enemy given me was at 10 a. m., at which time he made a most furious attack upon me from a heavy underwood, skirting my right and left flanks at a distance not to exceed 50 yards, thus completely raking my section. I immediately commenced firing, using canister, and continued to do so until ordered by the colonel commanding my supports to retire. At this time an overwhelming attack was made upon my right and left flanks.

My support upon the left evinced great disorder and confusion, but upon the entreaties of the colonel commanding, and my own assurance that I would give them a charge of canister, they became more steady, but afterward broke and fled to the rear, which occasioned me the loss of one of my pieces. I withdrew my remaining piece and carriages to the rear, a distance of 100 yards, where I again placed myself in position and resumed my fire with shot and shell, having for my support a portion of the Seventh Regiment Connecticut Volunteers. I continued firing until the flames of the burning wood upon my left became intolerable, and the enemy had gained a distance of 200 yards in rear of my right flank.

After ceasing my firing, I advanced with my uninjured cannoneers, who were joined by a portion of my support, and recaptured and withdrew my lost piece, after which I retired my section a distance of one-half mile, where I reported to Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry the condition of my command, who instructed me to remain for a short time, which order I obeyed, after which was instructed to take my pieces to the rear.

During the engagement, which lasted a period of twenty minutes, I expended 48 rounds of ammunition, was wounded myself by being struck in two places upon my person, and having 8 men disabled and 5 horses shot.

I would most respectfully state that during the engagement the colonel commanding my supports of the One hundred and sixty-ninth Regiment New York Volunteers, behaved with great gallantry, and by his brave and manly example in striving to collect his partially disorganized force, assisted me greatly in saving my guns and my noble men.

I am, most respectfully, yours,

J. H. GEORGE.
Second Lieutenant Fourth New Jersey Battery.

Capt. GEORGE T. WOODBURY,
Commanding Fourth New Jersey Battery.

No. 40.

Report of Col. Richard White, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, of operations May 9-10.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Foster's, near Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 11, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that on Monday, May 9, at 5 a. m., the regiments composing this brigade marched to the line of Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, at a point near the intersection of the turnpike road connecting those two cities with the railroad. Details were made from the command to assist in tearing up the superstructure of the railroad. This duty was performed rapidly and effectually. Some hundreds of yards of track were torn up; the ties piled up and burned. The timbers forming portions of the roadway over culverts and ditches burned also. The availability of this road as a line of communication and transport was completely destroyed. Many hundred yards of telegraph wire were also cut down and rendered useless, both on line of turnpike and railroad. Pending these operations no enemy was seen and no resistance encountered. About 10.30 a. m. the command left the point above mentioned and marched, following the line of the turnpike toward Swift Creek, in front of Petersburg. Beyond Bake-House Creek indications of the enemy were observed. Some shelling occurred here, but without damage to this command. Continuing the march the command came up with the brigade of Brigadier-General Weitzel, of Eighteenth Army Corps, which was engaged with the enemy, and was ordered to support that general. In the action, becoming exposed to the enemy's artillery fire, some casualties occurred in the Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania, Eighth Maine, and Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Regiments, of this brigade. Toward dark, the firing having ceased, the brigade formed into line, the left resting near a little church near Swift Creek, and bivouacked. On Tuesday, May 10, about 10 a. m., the regiments composing the brigade were ordered to the support of Brigadier-General Terry's division, which was hotly engaged with the enemy near the point where the railroad had been destroyed.

The command moved up with commendable rapidity, but on its arrival the enemy had already retired. Portions of the different regiments were sent out to observe, reconnoiter, &c.; line was formed, left resting on turnpike. About 5 p. m. the command was ordered back to this point, where it arrived shortly after. Although the heat of the sun during the two days (9th and 10th) was excessive, yet the men marched rapidly and without much apparent suffering, and generally well closed up.

I inclose list of casualties.*

I have the honor, lieutenant, to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. WHITE,
Col. 55th Pa., Comdg. First Brig., Third Div., 10th A. C.

Lieut. C. A. CARLETON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 14.

No. 41.

Report of Lieut. Col. Henry Boynton, Eighth Maine Infantry, of operations May 9-10.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH MAINE VOLUNTEERS,
In the Field, May 11, 1864.

I have the honor to report that, in obedience to orders, this regiment marched from bivouac at Gill's farm at 4.30 o'clock on Monday morning, May 9. On reaching the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, 3 miles distant, three companies were sent to the right, and did very effective service in tearing up the track and destroying the rails. The other seven companies were then formed by the side of the track, and turned it directly over; then, moving the length of the battalion to the right, turned over another long section of rail track, and sent it sliding down a steep embankment. It was a grand sight, the long line of track turning over like a huge furrow. After proceeding down the track about 2 miles, we turned off on the Richmond turnpike toward Petersburg, and reached Arrowfield just as the heaviest firing commenced, and formed line of battle under a heavy fire. The enemy fired high, their shot and shell mostly flying high over us, and wounding only 1 man, Private W. F. Sherwin, Company F. After the battle was over we slept in line of battle on the field in an advanced position. The next day we were ordered to make a forced march to aid General Terry, who was engaging the enemy several miles distant, on the right of the Tenth Army Corps. We advanced there shortly before the enemy finally retreated, and formed in support of Battery D, First U. S. Artillery, whose six guns were in position in an open field. This battle having closed by the defeat of the enemy, we returned to Gill's farm. The regiment suffered much from the extreme heat on both days. Both officers and men exhibited hardy endurance, and behaved in the most admirable, manly, and soldier-like manner. Everything was done in good order.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BOYNTON,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Eighth Regt., Maine Volunteers.

Lieut. GEORGE W. HUCKINS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 42.

Reports of Col. Jeremiah C. Drake, One hundred and twelfth New York Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 6-16.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bermuda Hundred, May 20, 1864.

COLONEL: Pursuant to directions from department headquarters, received through intermediate headquarters, I have the honor to forward the following report of the part taken by my command while on expeditions under command of Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, which embrace the operations of the 6th and 16th instant:

On the 6th instant, in the affair under Brigadier-General Brooks, my brigade by order followed that of Colonel Plaisted. When we

reached the forks in the road, about 1¼ miles out, I was ordered to place my brigade so as to support Battery L, Fourth U. S. Artillery, which was posted on the left-hand road. I accordingly placed the One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers, Lieut. Col. E. F. Carpenter commanding, in line of battle on the left of the road and battery, and the Ninth Maine Volunteers, Col. S. Emery commanding, on the right, throwing out skirmishers to the front. The Thirteenth Indiana and One hundred and sixty-ninth New York, commanded respectively by Col. C. J. Dobbs and Col. John McConihe, were held in reserve, forming a second line. About 12 m. I was ordered to make connection with General Burnham's command and support his movement. Having received no information of the position of General Burnham's command, nor of the nature of his movement, some difficulty was experienced in making this connection. It was established, however, and I moved my command forward, in conformity with the movement of General Burnham's command, with five companies of the Thirteenth Indiana Volunteers as skirmishers in front. The enemy retired from the position in which they had been in line upon our approach, leaving upon the ground some knapsacks, blankets, and equipments. Having advanced about one-half mile, and reached the top of the hill across the ravine, I halted the command, that of General Burnham having also halted. Reconnoitered the two roads in front, caused the pioneers to clear the right-hand road of old fallen timber, advanced the command and one section of the battery to a position within range of the enemy's battery across the valley and near the railroad, about two-thirds of a mile in advance. My skirmishers drove those of the enemy from our immediate front and across the valley, and after about half an hour our artillery silenced that of the enemy. It was now near 5 p. m., and the fighting on the right having apparently ceased, I, by direction of the assistant adjutant-general to General Brooks, held my command at that point and awaited orders. At about 6 p. m. I withdrew my command, pursuant to orders, following General Burnham's brigade. The casualties in this affair were as follows:*

On the 12th instant I was again ordered to the front with my brigade, and went to Walthall Junction, but subsequently took position this side of the valley and railroad, by order of Brigadier-General Ames. On the morning of the 15th I proceeded with two regiments of my brigade up the pike to Half-Way House, near Drewry's Bluff, leaving two regiments in position guarding the approaches from Petersburg. I do not suppose any report of the performance of these two regiments to be necessary in this place. Of the part taken by the other two (the One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers and Ninth Maine) under my command in the battle of the 16th instant, the following report is submitted: Soon after light on the morning of the 16th instant, there being heavy musketry firing at the front, I received a verbal and hasty order, through Brigadier-General Ames, to send one regiment to the right immediately, as the enemy were turning our right. I immediately dispatched the One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers, Lieut. Col. E. F. Carpenter commanding, and ordered him to hasten to the

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 man killed and 6 wounded in Ninth Maine Volunteers, 2 men wounded in Thirteenth Indiana Volunteers, and 1 man wounded in One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers.

right and report to General Heckman, as I understood him to occupy the right with his brigade; or, if he failed to find him, to report to any officer whom he might find commanding on the right. Suspecting from the sound of battle that the only other regiment that I had with me, Ninth Maine Volunteers, would soon be wanted, I ordered it to be in instant readiness. In about five minutes I was ordered to send that also to the right, and went with it myself, with my staff, hoping to make connection with the one first sent. Accordingly, under guidance of a staff officer, I conducted the Ninth Maine Volunteers, Lieut. Col. Z. H. Robinson commanding, to the right, going up the pike a short distance and turning to the right on a cross-road leading to the road parallel to the pike, and between it and the river. On reaching this road, I found that the enemy had crushed everything before them to a point near General Heckman's headquarters; that he was missing, and no organized forces of his were to be found in the vicinity. Lieutenant-Colonel Carpenter, while leading his regiment up this road toward the front, and when near General Heckman's headquarters, had been dangerously wounded, and the adjutant of his regiment, Lieut. S. P. Hedges, had been captured by the enemy. Capt. William H. Chaddock, upon whom the command of the regiment had devolved, had promptly formed his regiment in line of battle across the road, and thrown out skirmishers, who effectually resisted the farther advance of the enemy. Under direction of Brigadier-General Weitzel, who soon appeared upon the ground, I posted my little brigade so as to cover and defend and hold this road, which was of vital importance to us. During the remainder of the day my brigade formed the right of the line. I threw out and maintained a strong line of skirmishers, which was hotly engaged with the advance of the enemy during most of the day, and suffered some loss, but effectually resisted the enemy's advance. About 2 p. m., in conjunction with the whole line, I advanced my brigade, and my skirmishers drove the enemy over the whole ground of the battle and into the rifle-pits occupied by Heckman's brigade in the morning. All the officers and men of my command behaved with commendable coolness and bravery during the whole day without any exceptions that have come to my knowledge. Inclosed is a list of the casualties suffered in the affair.*

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. DRAKE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Lieut. Col. NICOLAS BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864—5.40 p. m.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that the whole of this brigade was industriously employed on the defenses of this position during the 9th and the night of the 9th instant. At 3 a. m. on the morning of the 10th I sent to the front to report to Colonel Voris, per order of Major-General Gillmore, two regiments, viz, the Thirteenth Indiana Volunteers, Col. C. J. Dobbs commanding, and the

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 3 enlisted men killed, 2 officers and 17 enlisted men wounded, and 1 officer and 1 enlisted man missing.

One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, Col. John McConihe commanding. These regiments were engaged at the front on the 10th instant almost immediately after their arrival and suffered severely, behaving with great gallantry.

The casualties were as follows:

Command.	Killed	Wounded	Missing
13th Indiana Volunteers	6	a 67	29
169th New York Volunteers	9	34	13
Total	15	101	42

a Present, 41; missing, 26.

Fuller reports will be sent from each regiment as soon as possible.

I am, very respectfully,

J. C. DRAKE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Lieut. CHARLES A. CARLETON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 43.

Report of Col. Cyrus J. Dobbs, Thirteenth Indiana Infantry, of operations May 10.

HDQRS. THIRTEENTH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLS.,
Camp in the Field, May 11, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with instructions, I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 10th instant I proceeded with my command to a point about 1 mile beyond the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike and took up my position, throwing forward skirmishers, resting my left on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, 11 miles below Chester Station, the right connecting with the One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, Colonel McConihe, who had been placed on the extreme right. One section of the First Connecticut Battery and four companies of the Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers having reported to me, I placed the artillery in position, supported by the detachment of the Sixty-seventh Ohio. Immediately after the disposition of this small force, comprising the command, the enemy appeared in my front with the three arms of the service. Seeing that the enemy was in force, I ordered the artillery to open fire and sent to the rear for re-enforcements. The enemy formed promptly and advanced in fine style. I threw forward all my reserve but one company on the advanced line. We allowed the enemy to advance within easy range, when a volley from our entire front threw them in confusion and finally in hasty retreat. They promptly re-enforced their lines, renewed the attack, with the same result. By this time I was re-enforced by the Sixth Connecticut Volunteers, Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers and four pieces of Captain Rockwell's battery. I ordered the Sixth Connecticut Volunteers to the right of the road, the Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers to the left, as supports to the advanced lines, and detached Maj. J. C. Burton with five companies of the Thirteenth Indiana Volunteers to the extreme right of the One hundred and sixty-ninth New York

Volunteers. The enemy now reappeared from the woods beyond in largely increased force, displaying five stand of colors in our front and two on our right, advancing in splendid order. Again they were allowed to advance within easy range, when a murderous fire opened from both sides, with both musketry and artillery. This contest was final and desperate. The enemy broke and rallied, but was finally compelled to take cover in the woods. The detachment under Major Burton, of the Thirteenth Indiana, advanced under a severe fire and charged the enemy in a hand-to-hand conflict, recapturing two pieces of artillery, but being unsupported on the right, and flanked, were compelled to retire to another position. Captain Rockwell's battery did excellent execution in this assault. The enemy was now evidently making preparations for a final assault. Our troops were in excellent spirits, feeling strong in their superiority over their enemy. At about noon the last advance was made by the enemy, but was soon driven back with heavy loss, and retired from view. The line on the left occupied by the Thirteenth Indiana and Sixty-seventh Ohio was maintained during the whole affair.

The officers under my command without an exception behaved in such a gallant manner that it would be doing injustice to name one and not all. I regret to report that out of 400 of the Thirteenth Indiana the loss was 102. Inclosed please find a list* of casualties sustained by the Thirteenth Indiana Volunteers. I would also state that the number of prisoners taken from the enemy on the 10th instant by the Thirteenth Indiana Volunteers is 37.

C. J. DOBBS,
Colonel, Commanding.

Lieutenant PIERCE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 44.

Report of Capt. William H. Chaddock, One hundred and twelfth New York Infantry, of operations May 4–16.

HDQRS. 112TH REGIMENT NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
In the Field, May 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the One hundred and twelfth Regiment New York Volunteers, left Gloucester Point, Va., May 4, 1864, and embarked on board the transport Thomas Powell and landed at Bermuda Hundred on the night of the 5th of May, and bivouacked for the night. Next morning, in conjunction with the troops of the Tenth Corps, marched to a point distant from the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad about 2 miles, and threw up intrenchments.

On the morning of the 7th of May received orders to march, and approached the Petersburg railroad, encountering the enemy about 1 mile from camp and drove them to the railroad, where they had a battery in position, fully supported by infantry, with skirmishers thrown to the front. Here a lively engagement followed artillery and skirmishers. No casualties occurred at this front. At sunset we returned to our defense. On the 12th of May we again approached the railroad, and succeeded in gaining the track without

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 14.

opposition, the enemy's pickets falling back. This regiment then destroyed effectually every iron rail on this road for 1 mile, burning the iron until it was rendered useless. On the morning of the 15th of May we marched toward Richmond on the turnpike road to a point distant from Fort Johnson one-half mile, where our forces were then intrenched. On the morning of the 16th of May, about 4 a. m., we were ordered to fall in and re-enforce the right of our line, which had sustained a heavy attack of the enemy, and were ordered to report to General Heckman. At this time we advanced through the most dense fog I ever saw and under a severe artillery fire from Fort Johnson, and succeeded in reaching the headquarters of the general, but found no one to whom we could report. At this point Lieutenant-Colonel Carpenter, then in command, sent Lieut. Samuel P. Hedges, Company B, One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers, acting adjutant, to the front to see if he could find any one of the general's staff, and he was taken prisoner, but before this was known the regiment was ordered to advance and soon became engaged with the enemy. At the first fire the lieutenant-colonel was mortally wounded and went to the rear. The command then devolved upon me, and I formed the regiment in line and held the ground until I was ordered to fall back by my brigade commander. At this point Company B had 2 wounded. My regiment was then assigned to support Captain Follett's battery, and I then threw out skirmishers to the front, under command of Lieutenant Allen, Company A, One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers, when they immediately became engaged with the skirmishers of the enemy, but held their ground most resolutely until charged upon by a strong line of skirmishers, supported by a line of battle. They then fell back slowly (contesting the ground) about 40 rods, when they succeeded in checking the enemy. A lively fire was kept up all the time until about 2 p. m., when we advanced a line of battle and drove the enemy into their intrenchments, and here held them until ordered to fall back, which was done in good order, and returned within our intrenched camp

The following are the casualties that occurred in my command :*

Very respectfully,

W. H. CHADDOCK,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

Brigadier-General THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army.

No. 45.

Reports of Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, U. S. Army, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, of operations May 13-16.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: I have the honor to send to you by one of my staff officers my official report of operations before Richmond, from 12th to 16th, inclusive, May, 1864, with sub-reports, &c., complete. I also send sub-reports of operations of 6th, 7th, 9th, and 10th ultimo.

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 officer wounded (mortally), 1 man killed, and 9 wounded.

I have not considered it necessary to make an official report upon the operations of General Heckman on the 6th and 7th, and General Brooks on the 7th ultimo, as their reports cover everything. I would only call your attention to the gallant reconnaissance of Captain West, aide-de-camp on my staff, on 7th ultimo, and refer you to his report inclosed. My official report of 9th and 10th ultimo will be forwarded by mail as soon as practicable.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that on the night of the 11th ultimo the following instructions were received:

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
May 11, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General SMITH:

A movement will be made to-morrow morning at daybreak of the troops in the manner following: General Smith will take all of his corps that can be spared from his line with safety, and will demonstrate against the enemy up the turnpike, extending his line of advance to the left, with his right resting, at the beginning of the movement, on the river at or near Howlett's house, pressing the enemy into their intrenchments, with the endeavor to turn them on the left, if not hotly opposed.

General Gillmore will order one division of his corps to report to General Smith with two days' rations ready to march at any time at or after daylight, at General Smith's order. General Gillmore will make such disposition with the remainder of his corps as to hold the enemy in check if any movement is made upon the rear of General Smith or upon our lines from the direction of Petersburg, holding such troops as may not be necessary to be thrown forward by him upon the turnpike in reserve, ready to reenforce either point that may be attacked. Of course, General Smith's demonstration will cover the right of General Gillmore's line of works, unless he—General Smith—is forced back. General Kautz has orders to proceed as soon as the demonstration of General Smith's troops has masked his movements from at or near Chester Station, to make demonstrations upon the Danville road for the purpose of cutting it. It is intended to develop by this movement the entire strength of the enemy in the direction of Richmond, and, if possible, either to force them within their intrenchments or turn them, as the case may be. If successful, it is supposed that the troops will occupy during the night the line of advance secured. General Hinks has orders to seize and hold a point on the Appomattox opposite General Smith's headquarters pending this movement. The commanding general fails to make further orders in detail because of personal explanation given to each corps commander of the movement intended.

Respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

In obedience to these instructions, my command moved shortly after daylight on the morning of the 12th instant, in the following order: General Weitzel's division, followed by that of General Brooks, moving from the left of General Ames' line of works by the Widow Howlett's house to the turnpike, General Weitzel's division forming across the turnpike, and General Brooks in reserve. General Turner's division, of the Tenth Corps, temporarily assigned to my command, moved by Dr. Howlett's house, on James River, down near the mouth of Red House [Redwater?] Creek, at which point his line was deployed along the road leading to the turnpike. General Weitzel

began skirmishing shortly after leaving the line of pickets of General Gillmore, driving the enemy in front of him until he reached the turnpike crossing of Red House Creek. Here the enemy opened a fire from two pieces of artillery from the turnpike, but were soon driven away, and General Weitzel formed his line of battle across the turnpike road north of Red House Creek. Finding the enemy skirmishing along General Weitzel's entire front, his command was thrown to the right of the turnpike. Six regiments of General Brooks' command were then deployed on the left, the remaining brigade being held as reserve on his left flank. General Turner was at the same time ordered to connect with General Weitzel, leaving a sufficient force to guard from Dr. Howlett's house down into the low open country near the mouth of Red House Creek. The whole line was then pressed forward as far as the nature of the ground on the left would allow, the left brigade of General Weitzel on the right of the turnpike, and the entire line of battle of General Brooks to force its way through an almost impenetrable thicket in a marshy country, between Red House Creek and Proctor's Creek. The right brigade of General Weitzel's and General Turner's divisions having more open country, had succeeded in driving the enemy across Proctor's Creek.

Finding that my entire line did not outflank the enemy's line of skirmishers, I sent word to the commanding general to that effect, asking first of General Kautz, who was then about to pass out on his raid, to make a diversion reconnaissance on my left. But that being deemed impracticable, I asked for infantry to extend my line, with the suggestion that the force brought up might move so as to head Proctor's Creek and try to turn the enemy's works in that way. Late in the day General Gillmore with three brigades came up on my left, and the entire command was ordered to bivouac and lie on their arms in that position during the night. To further secure my position, the brigade of General Brooks, which had been held in reserve, was ordered to form a second line in rear of General Weitzel, whose troops extended in one line, and General Turner was ordered to throw back his right so as to maintain connection with the road from Dr. Howlett's house and the right of General Weitzel's line. A very heavy rain during the day had served to injure the roads, and the soldiers slept on their arms that night, drenched to the skin.

A reconnaissance made by myself during the afternoon on General Weitzel's right developed the fact that the enemy held the left bank of Proctor's Creek with artillery, and that the slopes were steep and heavily wooded. No infantry was seen. During the night General Marston's brigade, which had formed a second line behind General Weitzel, was ordered to report to General Gillmore for the purpose of making a flank movement around the head of Proctor's Creek.

Early on the morning of the 13th instant General Brooks and myself made a reconnaissance on his front, finding a practicable country for infantry across Cattle Run, a branch of Proctor's Creek, and beyond that a high hill which overlooked and commanded the left bank of Proctor's Creek and vicinity of the turnpike. A brigade of infantry was at once thrown forward on the hill, and sharpshooters were so disposed as to cover the passage of artillery down the turnpike to the point necessary to gain this hill. Skirmishers were then thrown forward across the creek, and it was found the enemy had retired. The whole of my command was then brought across the creek and

deployed across the turnpike at the Half-Way House in the following order: General Weitzel on the right of the turnpike, General Brooks on the left, while Turner's division was brought up from the extreme right and thrown upon the left of General Brooks.

A narrow strip of open country extended from about 300 yards on the left of the turnpike down to James River. To the left of this open country were woods, with thick undergrowth, on our front. The woods were of the same character extending nearly a mile to the right. The skirmishers were pushed forward, supported by the line of battle, until they reached some points of the outer edge of the woods just referred to. From this edge of the woods the enemy's line of defenses could be seen for over a mile, having a strong profile, with a ditch on the outside. Numerous embrasures for artillery were also filled. In the front of General Weitzel our skirmishers had not been pushed to the opening, and therefore no reconnaissance on his front could be made. The approaches to the works on General Brooks' front required an advance over open ground of from 300 to 700 yards, all of which could be swept by the fire of the enemy's artillery.

On the turnpike the defenses were about 1,000 yards in our front, with embrasures for two guns. A reconnaissance by General Brooks and myself on his front induced me to express the opinion to the general commanding the department that if that line was held in force by the enemy, it could not be carried by assault, and that I s ould not attempt it unless I received orders to do so. Shortly after this news was received that General Gillmore had turned the enemy's works and held their extreme right. I was then ordered to remain in my position that night. The right of General Weitzel's line was thrown back on Proctor's Creek, and the troops bivouacked in that position during the night. Just before dark Colonel Cole, commanding Second U. S. Colored Cavalry, with about 150 men, reported to me and was ordered to picket from the right of my infantry picket to the James River.

At daylight on the 14th instant skirmishers were ordered forward, and the left of General Turner soon occupied the enemy's works in their front. On General Weitzel's front, and on the right of General Brooks, the enemy's skirmishers held their ground with the most determined pertinacity, and were only driven back some time after the left of General Brooks occupied the works on their front. As we gained the edge of the clearing in front of General Weitzel, we found the enemy still holding an interior line of work, with a bastion salient on an eminence, completely commanding our position, the flanks falling back on the enemy's left to the James River and Drewry's Bluff, and on their right in a northwesterly direction, extending beyond any point that we could see. The prong or arm of the works which General Gillmore had turned ran into this second line at the bastion salient before mentioned. A heavy fire of artillery was opened on our lines from this salient, which was soon, however, checked by General Weitzel's sharpshooters, who had advanced under cover of stumps and huts to points from which they commanded the embrasures of the work. Shortly after my new line was established, General Gillmore moved to connect with my left. The day was spent in reconnaissances, and an assault, ordered for the next morning by the general commanding the department, was abandoned for the want of disposable troops to form the column.

On Sunday morning, the 15th instant, I went out on a reconnaissance on the extreme right behind the cavalry picket. I found there a tolerably open, undulating country, extending to the river and to the works of Drewry's Bluff, offering every facility for the movement of a heavy column on our right and rear. Going from there to the right of Heckman's command, and finding an important road near our right only defended by the pickets, I sent back for more troops, and two regiments were sent to my assistance. These were ordered to report to General Heckman, and were disposed by him on the left of his line, and his own troops were extended to the right across the road, the right regiments being thrown back in echelon. In the afternoon I went with General Weitzel and General Heckman to a farm-house, about a hundred yards to the front and right of General Heckman's command. This farm-house was situated on a knoll opposite the flank of the bastion before described. To the northwest of the house a short distance ran a stream, which I suppose to be Kingsland Creek. At this knoll a good view of the country on our right was obtained, and I ordered the farm-house and outbuildings to be heavily occupied by the reserves of the picket guard. On informing the commanding general of the department that the necessary extension of my line had drawn me out into one thin line of battle, and that I had no regiments with which to repair a break in my lines, and none to move to my right flank, I was informed that General Ames had three regiments at the Half-Way House, and that they would act as a reserve for my line. During that night, I have since learned, three assaults were made by the enemy upon the farm-house, which were repulsed by the troops stationed there. No report of this was made to me that night. A short time before daylight on the morning of the 16th I found everything quiet on my lines. There was at that time a thin film of clouds over the sky, but not so heavy as to interfere seriously with the moonlight, and giving no indications whatever of a foggy morning. I returned to my quarters and my bed, but was shortly afterward aroused by a heavy musketry and artillery fire on the right of our line. On going out I found a fog so dense that a horseman was not visible at a distance of 15 yards. I proceeded to the turnpike, where I established my headquarters and communicated with Generals Weitzel and Brooks. At this point I sent word to have the artillery withdrawn, as the fog was so dense it could not be used, and it was so far advanced that it was in danger of being captured. The order did not reach some guns most exposed until it was too late, as the orderly who took the order gave it to a sergeant of the guns at the caissons, and the sergeant in carrying the order to the guns was killed.

Learning from General Weitzel, after some delay, that General Heckman's brigade had been badly crushed by an attack of the enemy in force on his right flank and right rear, and General Ames having previously dispatched one of his regiments to report to me, the One hundred and twelfth New York, it was ordered to hold the cross-roads in rear of General Heckman's right. This regiment met the enemy near the point where they were to take possession, and, with the aid of the Ninth Maine, succeeded in holding in check this column of the enemy, which was moving in our rear. While this was going on, the enemy made furious assaults on my front, consisting of the brigades of Wistar and Burnham, in the divisions of Weitzel and Brooks. The density of the fog entirely preventing me

from seeing what was going on in the open country on my right, reconnaissances were impossible. Shortly after the One hundred and twelfth New York and the Ninth Maine were placed in position a report came to me from General Weitzel of a movement still farther on his right. As this threatened directly our communications, my artillery, which had been withdrawn, and was without supports, my ammunition train a short distance to the rear, and our lines we had left but feebly defended, I immediately ordered a retirement of the whole line, instructing General Brooks to inform General Turner, commanding a division in the Tenth Corps, that his movements must conform to ours to keep up connection between the two corps. While the line was falling back the fog lifted, so that I was able to watch my right, having in the mean time rallied round the Half-Way House the troops of General Heckman, which had fallen back much disorganized. I ordered the line forward again, and put the rallied troops in to cover the right of the advancing line. A short time afterward, finding General Weitzel again retiring, and asking him the reason, I was informed by him that two of the commanding officers of the regiments of broken troops had told him that they had orders from me personally to retire. This strange mistake on their part occurred just at the time when I learned that my connection with the Tenth Corps had been broken, and therefore a forward movement of mine would place me simply outside of the enemy's works, which we held before the retirement, and which I knew, by personal examination, could not be carried by assault. I then moved my entire line to the right, so as to hold both the turnpike and the parallel road on its right, forming line of battle in that position. About this time, hearing that General Gillmore had reached the turnpike in my rear, I made an advance in the direction of the point where Heckman's brigade had been attacked, with a view of bringing off my wounded. My advance into the woods which I had occupied early in the morning found a line of battle in my front, and the enemy on my right and left flanks. Having but a very small force in the advance, I withdrew my line, bringing off what few wounded our advance had covered, and immediately commenced obeying the orders of the general commanding the department to retire within the lines. This was done successfully and without loss.

The capture of General Heckman has left me in much uncertainty with reference to the point at which the enemy crossed the little creek in his front, and of their attack upon his lines. These facts can only be arrived at after his release.

For details of the battle in reference to the conduct of the troops, I refer you to the reports of subordinate officers, herein inclosed.

I am indebted to all the gentlemen on my staff for gallant and valuable service rendered during the engagement. I would particularly mention my aide, Capt. P. C. F. West, who, with a small party of 10 or 15 men, captured a rebel schooner near Howlett's house, on the James, and after setting fire to her they cut her adrift. Captain West with his small party traveled several miles through swamps and marshes, till he reached the river bank off which the vessel was moored. They built a raft and boarded her, not knowing what crew she carried, set her on fire, and cut her adrift. Captain West reported a torpedo attached to the anchor chain. He has distinguished himself in many reconnaissances and scouting parties, of which no official reports have been made. This act of boarding the

schooner under the circumstances, at a point in the James River far above our lines and gun-boats, I consider worthy the notice of the commanding general.

I remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding Eighteenth Corps.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff to Major-General Butler.

No. 46.

Report of Surg. George Suckley, U. S. Army, Medical Director, of operations May 6–16.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cobb's Hill, Va., May 20, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor herein to furnish you a report of the killed and wounded of this corps that have come under my cognizance and general care since the corps landed at Bermuda Hundred, on the 6th day of May, 1864, to and including the casualties of the 16th instant:

A few men, comparatively, may have been treated at their regimental camps, or sent away on transports to Fort Monroe that I have had no official knowledge of, and who are not reported here, some of whom were killed outright on the battle-fields and either left with the enemy or instantly buried. I also cannot report for want of data, and the killed and wounded who have fallen in the hands of the enemy, especially during the battle of May 16, can only be accounted for in the general reports of their division commanders as among the missing. I learn from the rebel newspapers that 24 of our wounded fell into their hands during the engagement of the 7th instant, who were sent to their hospital at Petersburg, and I personally know of 7 dead left in the hands of the enemy on the same day. During the various engagements a moderate number of rebel wounded were captured. They were attended to fully as well as were our own men, and everything, so far as I know, that could be dictated by humanity or the courtesy of war was done for them.

Casualties in Eighteenth Army Corps.

	Total number of wounded.	Died of wounds almost immediately after reception.
Engagements of May 6 and 7, 1864: Heckman's brigade, Second Division, First Division.	82	7
Engagements and skirmishing of 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th of May: First and Second Divisions.	172	19
Engagements and skirmishing on 13th and 14th of May: First and Second Divisions.	122	5
Skirmishing on the 15th of May and battle of May 16: First and Second Divisions.	568	6
Total	944	37
Add 24 left in hands of enemy, May 7, 1864	24	7
Add deaths at hospital since May 6, not otherwise accounted for, say	....	30
Grand total *a* (not including those in hands of the enemy, not here specified).	968	74

a The 74 dead are included in the wounded, except the 7 killed outright, on the 7th of May.

Since the first fight, all of the wounded cared for by me, not dead, except some 6 or 8, were comfortably sent off in transports, fitted up for the purpose, to the general hospital in the vicinity of Fort Monroe. The men not sent off were in too critical a condition to be moved. The wounded, as a general rule, were rapidly and properly cared for. There was a sufficiency of ice, lemons, anodynes, and chloroform, and the necessary operations appear to have been well and judiciously performed.

I desire to commend highly for industry, zeal, and efficiency, Surg. C. H. Carpenter, One hundred and forty-eighth New York, and Surg. S. A. Richardson, of the Thirteenth New Hampshire Regiments, both on different occasions, chief surgeons of the battle-field hospitals. Their numerous assistants and the operating surgeons, as a general rule, were capable and efficient.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE SUCKLEY,
Medical Director, Eighteenth Army Corps.

Lieut. Col. N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Army Corps.

No. 47.

Report of Capt. Preston C. F. West, Aide-de-Camp, of operations May 7.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 31, 1864.

I have the honor to report that on Saturday, May 7, 1864, I was given the command of 110 infantry (veterans of the Eleventh Connecticut), and 37 cavalry, and directed to try and cut the railroad between Port Walthall Junction and Petersburg. Several brigades of infantry, under the command of Brig. Gen. W. T. H. Brooks, were to engage the enemy at or near Port Walthall Junction. Leaving the main body of General Brooks' army, after it had crossed the Bake-House, Ashton Swamp, I concealed my command not far from Port Walthall and waited two hours or more, until General Brooks' forces were engaging the enemy. Learning from a negro guide that I could not well employ cavalry over the country in which I was obliged to go, I directed Captain Freeborn to form his troops on the left of General Heckman's brigade, and cover some country near which I had to pass. Moving slowly and cautiously on the left bank of the Appomattox River to the mouth of Swift Creek, I proceeded up it a short distance to the first passable point near which the right of the enemy's infantry pickets were posted. Leaving a reserve of 60 men at this point, I marched with the remainder through woods and swamps in the direction of Swift Creek bridge. About 1 mile from it, I left 40 more of my men, and with 10 men I reached the railroad, but only to find that the enemy's reserve of over 1,000 troops was there with arms stacked and drawing rations. Five minutes' thought told me it was a very risky place and I concluded to return as quickly as possible, which I did, not however, before I had secured 1 prisoner of the Nelson Battalion, of South Carolina, who was carried back. On my return to the main reserve of 60 men, I found that they had been shelled during my absence from a fort on the Appomattox River, but met with no loss.

In conclusion, I have to say that I met with no loss, but the men suffered considerable from heat and the long march. They behaved very well.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PRESTON C. F. WEST,
Capt. and A. D. C., Staff Maj. Gen. Wm. F. Smith.

Lieut. Col. N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to Major General Butler, commanding Department of Virginia, &c. Captain West brought back very valuable information regarding the country over which he had passed. With only 10 men he penetrated to the midst of the enemy and brought off 1 of them prisoner.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

No. 48.

Report of Lieut. Campbell Tucker, Aide-de-Camp, of operations May 12–16.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 21, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to orders received from you, I have the honor to make the following report, containing the most important orders which I carried during the campaign, commencing the 12th instant and ending the 16th instant:

May 12, about 5 a. m., I was sent to General Weitzel, whose command was then about half a mile in advance of General Ames' headquarters, with the following order:

To halt his command when they came up to the cavalry, keeping his flanks well guarded.

About 10 a. m. I carried a second order to General Weitzel:

To send a party up the road which crosses the turnpike at that point) to see if they could connect with General Turner's command, and to keep his right informed that General Turner's command would probably come down that road.

His command at that time was on the right of the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike, a short distance in the rear of Proctor's Creek. I then went on to General Turner with the following order:

To advance down the road which General Weitzel held, and to send his artillery to the rear, as it could not be used, owing to the character of the country.

I informed him that General Weitzel had sent out a party to connect with him, if possible.

About 2 p. m. I took the following communication to General Weitzel from General Smith:

General WEITZEL:

If I can bring Brooks out of this place to throw him still farther to the left, can you hold your present line on the left of the turnpike?

WM. F. SMITH.

To which he replied as follows, in writing:

My line will be very weak. It will be weakened more by Turner's advancing.

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General.

At 6 p. m. took an order to General Marston, who was then on the left of General Weitzel and the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike:

To report to General Weitzel with his command, marching by the right flank down the road which he was then in advance of.

At the same time I informed General Weitzel—

That General Marston's brigade would report to him, and that he would post them as a reserve.

May 13, when we arrived at Proctor's Creek, I was sent back to General Butler with the following request:

To order the battery of light 12-pounders, which were then near his headquarters, to report to General Smith.

To which he replied as follows:

Tell General Smith that I think there are only four guns near my headquarters, and that I will order them to the front immediately. Also tell him that I will order the battery of 20-pounder Parrotts forward.

General Butler's headquarters then were where we had ours the night before.

May 14, a short time after daylight, I carried the following order to General Weitzel:

To advance his line, and that General Brooks was then advancing.

5 a. m. informed General Turner—

That General Brooks' line then occupied the rebel intrenchments, and that General Weitzel's line was advancing, and ordered him to advance his line so that it occupied the rebel works and connected with General Brooks.

12 m. I sent the following communication, signed by General Smith, to General Butler:

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14—12 m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have no use for light 12-pounders. I know where my own batteries are, and have very respectfully to say that I can order them up as they are needed. I had supposed that some of General Gillmore's batteries, not to be otherwise employed, might be used to advantage here, and therefore sent the request to have the rifled batteries ordered here.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General of Volunteers.

In answer to the following communication, which had just then been received from General Butler:

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Half-Way House, May 14, 1864.

General SMITH:

I have ordered Onderdonk out on a reconnaissance to see what the trains mean. I think they mean ammunition and supplies. Certain it is that 1,000 men can march 8 miles sooner than they can be loaded and unloaded on a railroad train and carried 8 miles. I have ordered all the rifled guns up. I hope you will get them into position so that they can be used. I would not make an assault until I had used all my artillery. I have also ordered Beecher's battery of light 12-pounders to report to you.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

May 15, about 5 p. m., I took an order to the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers to report to General Weitzel.

May 16, about 4.30 a. m., I took an order to General Ames—

To send the portion of his division then at the Half-Way House to the front.

A short time afterward I took a request to General Butler—

To order a regiment (of General Ames' division), then near his headquarters, to report to General Smith.

To which he replied:

Tell General Smith that I will order the regiment to report to him, and that I will order a regiment up from our intrenchments, and tell him to do the same.

I next carried a request to General Butler—

To order the troop of cavalry which he had temporarily detached from the squadron at our headquarters to drive up the stragglers.

General Butler then ordered the troop of cavalry to report to me and I gave them the necessary orders. About 7.30 a. m., when General Heckman's brigade was reforming at the Half-Way House, I was ordered to form the Ninth New Jersey Volunteers on the left of the Ninety-eighth New York Volunteers, which I did, the Ninety-eighth New York Volunteers having advanced to the edge of the woods before the line was formed. About 7.45 a. m. I carried an order to General Brooks "to retire slowly," and informed him that General Weitzel was advancing his line until it connected with his, when he would commence retiring again to take up a stronger position. General Brooks then requested me to inform General Smith that his right was some distance to the left of the turnpike, but that he would try to make the connection. After General Brooks had formed his line near the Half-Way House I took an order to General Weitzel—

To form his line so that he held possession of the road (on the right of the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike) which led to our old camp.

About 5.30 p. m. I was sent by General Smith to see that the troops of the Eighteenth Army Corps came in on the proper road; after which I returned to camp with the rear guard. I was sent to the rear several times during the day to bring up ammunition, and carried a number of orders of minor importance during the campaign.

The different orders may not be word for word as they were given, but in substance they are the same. I have tried to give the time at which the orders were taken, but owing to the want of a proper order book some of them are not exact.

Very respectfully,

CAMPBELL TUCKER,
First Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

Lieut. Col. N. BOWEN, *A. A. G.*

No. 49.

Report of James A. Seymour, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp, of operations May 12-16.

HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *May* 23, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit this my report of the more important orders I delivered, by direction of Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, during the campaign of May 12 to 16, inclusive:

May 12, 9 *a. m.*—To direct General Turner to advance with cau-

tion, move forward his left, and retire his right, and make every effort to connect his left with the right of General Weitzel's division. The flankers of General Weitzel would also look for his (General Turner's) line. General Turner's division was at this time deployed on the open about 300 yards northwest of Dr. Howlett's house.

May 12, 10.30 *a. m.*—To direct General Turner to retire his right. At about this time the connection was made with Weitzel's division.

May 13, *about* 10 *a. m.*—To order Battery D, Fourth Artillery, and Battery L, Fourth Artillery, to report at once to Major-General Smith, near the Half-Way House. I found this artillery parked on the road near General Ames' former headquarters.

May 13, 11.30 *a. m.*—To direct General Brooks to have the right of his line connect with General Weitzel. The same to General Weitzel in regard to his left, and General Brooks' right.

May 13, 6 *p. m.*—To order General Brooks to push the enemy on his front. The same to General Weitzel, and to keep up the connection.

May 14, 4.30 *a. m.*—To direct General Brooks to push the enemy, and occupy their first line, if not held in force.

May 14, 5.15 *a. m.*—To order General Turner to advance his line and move on the left of General Brooks, and advance his line of skirmishers well to the front.

May 14, 5.30 *a. m.*—I found a brigade of Turner's division in camp in the woods, on the line of May 13, without a brigade commander. This I ordered out on the open in front, and reported this to Major-General Smith, who directed me to report the same to General Turner, and have it moved to the front at once, which was done, after some delay.

May 14, 11.30 *a. m.*—Reported to Major-General Butler that Major-General Smith desired such rifled guns as could be spared to report to him, the same to be parked in the field, in rear of Dr. Friend's house. One rifled battery, also a light 12-pounder battery; these were parked as directed.

May 16, 4.45 *a. m.*—Reported to Major-General Butler that the enemy had made a heavy attack on our right, and that Major-General Smith, desired re-enforcements, as our line was long, thin, and weak.

May 16, 5.30 *a. m.*—Was directed to report the condition of General Brooks' line, at the same time to order all artillery not in position back to the Half-Way House. All trains to move rapidly to the rear and beyond the Half-Way House.

May 16, 9.30 *a. m.*—To direct General Brooks to have his right move by the flank, and follow General Weitzel's left, when his (Weitzel's) division moved to the right.

May 16, *about* 2.15 *p. m.*—I delivered a written order to General Brooks in regard to an advance of his whole line.

May 16, 3.15 *p. m.*—Ordered General Brooks to retire to his last line, in the same order that he advanced; to move when General Weitzel moved.

May 16, 4 *p. m.*—Delivered a written order regarding the withdrawing of his command and the disposition of his skirmishers.

May 16, 4.45 *p. m.*—I was ordered to proceed in advance of the infantry, then en route for camp, and order all trains and artillery back to camp, and to keep the road clear.

It is, perhaps, well to state that the time of delivery of the orders herein given may not be exact, but can vary but little from the correct time.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAS. A. SCRYMSER,
Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 50.

Reports of Brig. Gen. William T. H. Brooks, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, of operations May 7–16.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders from corps headquarters, I proceeded on the 7th instant with four brigades, viz, Burnham's, of this division, Barton's, Drake's, and Plaisted's, of the Tenth Corps, Hunt's battery, and Colonel Onderdonk's cavalry, to cut the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. I took the [Bermuda] Hundred road to Port Walthall Junction and had not proceeded far before coming upon a small force of the enemy at the opposite end of a causeway leading through a marsh. The Eighth Connecticut Volunteers were thrown out as skirmishers and were supported by the balance of Burnham's brigade. The ground was most difficult to operate in, dense undergrowth and fallen timber in every direction. While Burnham's skirmishers were feeling the enemy in front the cavalry was sent out to the right to try and get to the turnpike. Report was soon brought in that the turnpike was close at hand. Plaisted's brigade was thrown to the right, and proceeding down a ravine under perfect cover, soon crossed the pike and reached the railroad, which it began to cut. Barton's brigade proceeded to the railroad to the left of Plaisted's, but not without a severe contest with a large force of the enemy that had discovered and opposed the movement. Drake's brigade was deployed to the left of Burnham's. The enemy soon disappeared from their front, and these two brigades were maintained in position to cover the movements of the other two. The brigades on the railroad were directed to withdraw when it was found they were all engaged in fighting and had no force left to destroy the road. By a misunderstanding of the orders, Plaisted's brigade was withdrawn before Barton's and before the time contemplated in the order sent him, hence there was not as much of the road destroyed as ought to have been by this brigade. I regret to have to report a heavy loss in Barton's brigade, but it is believed nearly all, if not quite all, of his wounded were brought off the field. The casualties in the Eighth Connecticut were numerous. This regiment was exposed to a heavy fire from the enemy, which it returned promptly, harassing his flank while attacking Barton. A section of Hunt's battery, under direction of Colonel Drake and supported by his brigade, was used very successfully against a battery of the enemy. From 300 to 500 yards of the road were destroyed, together with the telegraph line on the railroad and two telegraph lines on

the turnpike. A large steam saw-mill with a large amount of lumber, which a negro reports as belonging to the Confederate authorities, was also destroyed.

Very respectfully,

W. T. H. BROOKS,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—Since finishing the above report, the inclosed report of Colonel Plaisted was handed me.* No order was sent by me to Colonel Plaisted to "retire immediately;" that he was in danger of being flanked. On the contrary, I learn from the staff officer by whom the order spoken of in the body of my report was sent that he met Colonel Plaisted at the burnt saw-mill, bringing back his brigade. He therefore withdrew it without orders, leaving Barton's brigade without support. The saw-mill referred to by different reports was burnt under the direction of Colonel Dutton, Twenty-first Connecticut. I can well indorse what Colonel Plaisted says of Colonel Dandy, commanding One hundredth New York Volunteers, in every respect. Annexed is a tabular statement of casualties during the day's operations.

Very respectfully,

W. T. H. BROOKS,
Brigadier-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, 18TH ARMY CORPS.

Statement of casualties in Second Brigade, Second Division, and Second Brigade, Third Division, Tenth Army Corps, and Second Brigade, First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, under command of Brig. Gen. W. T. H. Brooks, commanding First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, May 7, 1864.

Brigades.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total		Aggregate
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Second Brigade, First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, Brig. Gen. H. Burnham commanding		5	4	64	.	10	4	79	83
Second Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, W. B. Barton, colonel 18th New York Volunteers, commanding		14		152		30		196	196
Second Brigade, Third Division, Tenth Army Corps, J. C. Drake, colonel 9th Maine Volunteers, commanding		1		9				10	10
Total		20	4	225		40	4	285	289

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, 18TH ARMY CORPS,
May, 1864.

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HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

SIR: My attention has been called to a dispatch of the Secretary of War, dated May 17, 9 p. m., published in the New York papers, in which it is said: "The enemy under cover of a thick fog made an

*See p. 73.

attack upon Smith's line and forced it back in some confusion and with considerable loss." I beg leave to respectfully say that so far as this division is concerned—there being present, however, only one and one-half brigades, Burnham's and part of Sanders'—it was not forced back, in confusion or otherwise, one inch. Sanders' two regiments were brought from my left to strengthen my right, resting on the turnpike, while Burnham held one side of the enemy's intrenchments until orders were given to withdraw. In this position he resisted several vigorous charges of the enemy and captured some ——— hundred of them, caught and tripped by telegraph wire stretched in our front. The withdrawing of the Eighth Connecticut by Lieutenant-Colonel Smith from my right, on the plea of being turned, was unjustifiable and is no exception to the statement above made.

Very respectfully,

W. T. H. BROOKS,
Brigadier-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, 18TH ARMY CORPS.

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HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864.

SIR: On the 9th instant I proceeded with two brigades of this division—Marston's and Burnham's—to cover the movement of General Weitzel's division, which was to strike the railroad at the point struck by my command on the 7th instant.

There being no enemy to oppose the movement, as soon as General Weitzel crossed the railroad my command advanced to it, and then marched along it in the direction of Petersburg. About a mile beyond Walthall Junction a country road crosses the railroad, running obliquely toward the turnpike. Marston's brigade took this road and proceeded to form a connection with General Weitzel's division on the turnpike. Burnham's brigade continued to follow the railroad, and as soon as the country would admit was deployed to the left, with its right resting on the road. The country between the railroad and turnpike was almost impassable by reason of the dense undergrowth. General Marston was ordered by me to connect his left with Burnham's right on the railroad. Without my knowing, he had been ordered by General Smith to maintain a connection with General Weitzel on the right. In moving over to the left, one of his regiments, Ninety-eighth New York, Colonel Wead, became engaged for a few moments with the enemy that had crossed the pike and drove him back. The order of General Smith was afterward carried out, and General Marston's right connected with General Weitzel. One regiment of Burnham's brigade was thrown to the right of the railroad, connecting with the First Brigade. These positions were maintained throughout the night, and while we were in front of Swift Creek. During the night the enemy appeared three times in some force in front of General Burnham's pickets, driving them back until the Tenth New Hampshire, Lieutenant-Colonel Coughlin, moved forward to their support and soon dispersed the enemy. An ineffectual effort was made by Lieutenant Hunt to destroy with his battery the railroad bridge across Swift Creek.

The casualties of this expedition were few, as the command was only opposed by a skirmish line of the enemy and the fire of sharpshooters.

The Third Brigade, of this division, was put under the orders of General Martindale, and operated almost independently on our extreme left. No report has been received from the brigade of its operations.

I respectfully inclose Brigadier-General Marston's report * of the operations of his brigade, Brigadier-General Burnham's † was forwarded with a former report.

Very respectfully,

W. T. H. BROOKS,
Brigadier-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, 18TH ARMY CORPS.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864.

SIR: On the 12th instant this division left camp, following General Weitzel's until he became engaged with the enemy on the turnpike, when I took position on Weitzel's left, my right resting on the turnpike. In this position an advance was made in which a line of the enemy's skirmishers was driven before us. As I was ordered to maintain a connection with the troops on my right this advance was not over half a mile when the troops went into bivouac. From this point General Marston was detached with his brigade and ordered to join General Gillmore's corps. Nothing was seen nor heard of the brigade by me during the rest of the operations. I understand that General Marston took three regiments with him and that the Ninety-eighth New York, Colonel Wead, was under General Weitzel's orders. This left me with only a brigade and a half, two regiments of Colonel Sanders' brigade having been left as a camp guard.

On the morning of the 13th, by a slight reconnaissance, it was discovered the enemy had withdrawn from his position near the Half-Way House and retired to his intrenchments, running from the turnpike to our left in front of a belt of lumber, supposed to border on Kingsland Creek, leaving a heavy picket in front of his line, and occupying with sharpshooters the brick house known as Friend's. Our picket-line was pushed up to close proximity and in a position to have quite a number of casualties. On the morning of the 14th the enemy evacuated this line of intrenchments. We took possession of the works, cutting down the exterior slope in such a way as to have a slight banquette on which a thin line could stand, protected by the original parapet. This position was maintained during the nights of the 14th and 15th by Burnham's brigade, while Sanders was advanced to the edge of the woods beyond the intrenchments, and took position to Burnham's left, where he remained until the morning of the 16th. The picket-line in our front was almost constantly engaged in skirmishing with the enemy. On the 14th Hunt's and Easterly's batteries were put in position in rear of Burnham's line, and directed to open on the enemy's large high work to our front

* Not found. † See p. 132.

and right, which was done, but without any particular effect. On the morning of the 16th, after the attack on our right, the enemy made his appearance in front of General Burnham's line, and made several vigorous attacks, which were handsomely repulsed by the One hundred and eighteenth New York and the Tenth and Thirteenth New Hampshire. I regret to have to report that the commanding officer of the Eighth Connecticut, occupying the extreme right, withdrew that regiment from a position that was susceptible of being turned, but before it was sufficiently endangered. It might have caused trouble to the rest of the line.

On the whole, the conduct of this brigade was very exemplary. They held their ground until ordered to retire, and this was only given after the withdrawal of the division on my right. Sanders' two regiments were moved and placed in a second and third line, resting with their right on the turnpike.

I submit with this Brigadier-General Burnham's report* of the operations of his brigade, and respectfully call attention to its details. I submit also Colonel Sanders' report.*

It is my disagreeable duty to report a very disgraceful performance of the Nineteenth Wisconsin, that can only be traced to a general and entire want of proper discipline—a performance that would have been shameful on the part of the rawest militia. While lying in the edge of the wood just in front of the Half-Way House, an order was sent to throw back the right of the first company or division, so as to meet, if necessary, any force likely to turn the right. From the unskillfulness of the officer in command, Lieutenant-Colonel Strong, the whole regiment rose to its feet and began to fall to the rear.

When ordered to resume their position, the regiment moved forward at a double-quick and with cheers, as though this was the only way to get them to advance. On reaching the woods, they completed the performance by delivering a volley from nearly all the regiment, firing into the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers that was in their front, killing and wounding quite a number of them.

I also inclose Major Schenck's report* of the artillery brigade during all the time we have been on this peninsula.

I beg leave to call attention to Brigadier-General Burnham's commendation of officers, which I concur in, as being judicious and well deserved. Commendations are also due the officers of my staff for faithful performance of duty. They are: Capt. Theodore Read, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. William R. Howe, assistant adjutant-general and acting assistant inspector-general; Lieutenants Parsons and Wheeler, Fourth Vermont Volunteers, aides-de-camp; Lieut. William J. Ladd, Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, commissary of musters.

On the receipt of special reports in regard to the conduct of individuals, I shall make one in regard to conduct of those that came under my observation.

Very respectfully,

W. T. H. BROOKS,
Brigadier-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, 18TH ARMY CORPS.

*See pp. 132, 141, 146.

No. 51.

Reports of Col. Frederick F. Wead, Ninety-eighth New York Infantry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 12-16.

HDQRS. NINETY-EIGHTH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
Near Port Walthall, Va., May 19, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with the direction of the brigadier-general commanding the Second Division, Eighteenth Corps, I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my regiment while under his command, as well as those of the Ninth New Jersey, Eighth Maine, and Twenty-first Connecticut, temporarily under my command on the 16th instant:

On the 10th my regiment (the fourth of the First Brigade, First Division) was directed to report to General Wistar, by whose order it was placed in position near Proctor's Creek, on a road leading to the right from the Richmond turnpike, which position it occupied until the next day, when I was directed to report to General Heckman, with whose brigade it crossed Kingsland Creek, and, being ordered again to General Wistar, was employed until the evening of the 14th in supporting the batteries in position near the Half-Way House, when it was again ordered to General Heckman, by whom it was posted on the right of his brigade, in a slight ravine about 1,000 yards from the main redoubt of the enemy on the right of the Richmond turnpike. This position it occupied, amid occasional shelling and continual outpost-firing, until the evening of the 15th, when it was moved on the same line 200 yards to the left, Heckman's brigade moved at the same time to the right, and the place vacated occupied by the Eighth Maine and the Twenty-first Connecticut, making the disposition of regiments from right to left, First, Heckman's brigade; second, Ninety-eighth New York Volunteers; third, Eighth Maine; fourth, Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers. The line thus formed was concave in contour, its right salient toward the enemy. Along all of it (except the position in front of General Heckman's two right regiments) a rude breast-work of logs was hastily thrown up. The outposts were deployed from 20 to 100 yards in front. At dark on the night of the 15th the outpost-firing, which had during the previous twenty-four hours been continual, ceased entirely; but, at the direction of General Heckman, the utmost vigilance was maintained during the night, only a portion of the troops being allowed to sleep. On the morning of the 16th, at daybreak, heavy picket-firing began along the whole line, accompanied by a vigorous shell and case fire from both redoubts. The outposts held their position until dislodged by the enemy in force, who, advancing in the fog and darkness, assaulted the line in front, but was promptly met and repulsed by a well-directed fire. Under cover of this demonstration, the enemy hurled furiously against the right of Heckman's brigade a heavy column, which the outposts report to have crossed during the night from the fort on the north side of the James. The right regiments engaged in front were unable to resist its onset, and the enemy passed without effort or resistance until in rear of and opposite to the fourth regiment (the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts), which, facing by the rear rank, charged him in flank, checking his advance, but disorganizing

the regiments. Taking advantage of the momentary check thus occasioned, I changed the front of my regiment to rear upon its left company, and received the leading regiment (the Twenty-third Virginia) with an unexpected fire, which threw him into confusion. He therefore marched by his right flank, with the evident purpose of turning my left, but was then again repulsed by the Eighth Maine, which occupied the breast-works at right angles to my line. At the same time my right wing was attacked by a rebel regiment (said to be the Fourteenth Georgia), which it handsomely repulsed. After maintaining this position some time, and exposed to a severe fire from front, flank, and rear, and finding that the regiment on my left (the Eighth Maine) had withdrawn, by order of Major-General Smith, I marched by the right flank through the woods to the road running at right angles from the turnpike to the river, whence it was conducted by a staff officer to the hill at the Half-Way House, and again advanced, by order of General Weitzel, to the road above mentioned, on which were afterward found the Ninth New Jersey, the Eighth Maine, and Twenty-first Connecticut.

Here, being the senior officer present, I was placed in command of the line, and, under directions of General Weitzel, advanced the same into the woods, where we found a line of battle, which we engaged, and, after a sharp engagement, repulsed in disorder. Shortly after the line was withdrawn by order of General Weitzel. The Eighth Maine, Twenty-first Connecticut, and Ninety-eighth New York Volunteers were posted on the crest of the hill, on either side of the road nearest the river, where they remained until the withdrawal of the column, to which, with a light battery and the Second U. S. Colored Cavalry, they acted as rear guard.

All the regiments last mentioned behaved with much bravery. The Ninth New Jersey sustained its well-established reputation, but, reduced by sickness and losses in the previous engagements, was overpowered by the superior numbers of the enemy. The Eighth Maine throughout exhibited much steadiness and tenacity. The Twenty-first Connecticut, while under my observation, fought gallantly.

My own regiment obeyed its orders. I have not received the list of casualties of the Ninth New Jersey and Twenty-first Connecticut, but those of the Eighth Maine and Ninety-eighth New York prove them not neglectful of their duty. The Eighth Maine lost in killed, wounded, and missing, 4 officers and 84 men; the Ninety-eighth New York Volunteers, in killed, wounded, and missing, 4 officers and 99 men.

After I was in command of the brigade Capt. William Kreutzer, my senior officer, commanded my regiment and managed it with much bravery and ability. He was of much service during the first engagement.

Inclosed you will find the report* of Major McArthur, commanding the Eighth Maine Volunteers.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. F. WEAD,
Colonel Ninety-eighth New York Volunteers.

Lieut. E. E. GRAVES,
Aide-de-Camp.

*Not found.

HDQRS. NINETY-EIGHTH REGT. NEW YORK VOLS.,
Near Port Walthall, Va., May 22, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with your directions, I have the honor to make the following report of operations of my regiment from the 12th to 16th instant:

On the 12th instant, on reaching the Richmond turnpike, my regiment was detached from the brigade of General Marston and attached to the brigade of Brigadier-General Wistar, under whose directions it was employed until the evening of the 14th instant, supporting batteries in various positions near the Half-Way House, during the last day furnishing three companies as outposts in front of the enemy's works on the right of the turnpike near Drewry's Bluff. On the 14th it was placed under command of Brigadier-General Heckman, and after various changes posted in the front line of the army on the left of Heckman's brigade, and about 1,000 yards from the enemy's main redoubt, on its left; first, the Eighth Maine, and second, the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers, both temporarily under the command of General Heckman, the space between the left of the Twenty-first Connecticut and the turnpike being occupied by the brigade of General Wistar. The positions of my right and the rest of the line are indicated in the accompanying diagram.* The troops were in single line of battalions, deployed and without support nearer than the field near the Half-Way House, three-fourths of a mile distant. The line was concave in form, the right salient to the enemy, and reaching to within one-half mile of the James. The troops were posted in a slight ravine or depression of ground, the reverse slope of which partially protected them from the fire from the forts. The woods extended from 4 to 10 rods in front of the line and along the edge (the outposts were placed between them and the enemy), and was a smooth, open plateau, across which outpost firing was continually maintained. In front of each regiment a rude breast-work of logs was hastily thrown up. On the evening of the 15th, at sundown, the outpost-firing ceased entirely and a dense fog settled down, making the darkness almost impenetrable. About 3 o'clock the next morning, 16th, the outposts were attacked by the enemy in force along the whole line, and soon driven in. At the same time a heavy shell and case fire was opened from both the enemy's redoubts. My regiment, reserving its fire until the enemy became distinctly visible through the fog, at a distance of not over 4 rods, received them with a file fire, which soon drove them back. Meanwhile, under cover of this front attack, the enemy marched a heavy column through the open space between General Heckman's right flank and the river, and furiously attacked his right rear. Before this onset the right regiment gave way in confusion, and the column passed rapidly down the line, crushing everything before it. Hearing the shouts of the advancing enemy, and learning from stragglers their source, I sent Captain Kreutzer, my senior officer, to Colonel Pickett, commanding Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Regiment on my right, and the fourth of Heckman's brigade, informing him that I proposed to swing back the right of my regiment so as to form a line at right angles to the breast-works, and desiring him to form on my right. This he refused to do, stating he would face by the rear rank and charge the enemy when he came opposite him, which maneuver he shortly afterward put in

* Not found.

execution, causing the complete disorganization of his regiment. On the return of Captain Kreutzer, I ordered the change from front to rear upon my left company, which maneuver, executed in perfect order, notwithstanding the fire from the fort and front, was no sooner completed than the leading regiment of the attacking column (the Twenty-third Virginia) came in sight and demanded my surrender, to which we replied with a fire, which, delivered while he was in the act of deployment, threw him into confusion and stopped his advance. Shortly afterward another regiment, said to be the Fourteenth Georgia, came into line opposite to and overlapping our right wing, and opened a galling fire on the right companies. Dressing back the right wing slightly, so as to meet their new attack, we engaged both these regiments until they withdrew, when, finding the regiments on my left, the Eighth Maine and Twenty-first Connecticut, gone, withdrawn by order of Major-General Smith, we marched by the right flank, guided by the sound of the retreating batteries, to the field in front of the Half-Way House. Here the remainder of the brigade was reformed and placed by General Weitzel under my command as senior officer present. Under his directions, I advanced the brigade about one-third of a mile into the woods, and engaged the enemy until the troops of General Brooks had debouched upon the turnpike, the regiment being under the command of Capt. William Kreutzer, when it was withdrawn by direction of General Weitzel and placed in line upon the crest of the hill to the right of the Half-Way House, which position they occupied until the withdrawal of the army, to the right column of which it acted as rear guard.

The losses of my regiment during the two battles and the outpost skirmishing during operations are as follows: One officer killed, 3 officers wounded; 14 men killed, 62 men wounded, and 23 men missing; aggregate loss, 103.

Although such commendation might more properly come from some other source, yet I cannot refrain from expressing my entire satisfaction with the conduct of officers and men, and my admiration of the coolness and bravery which enabled them while under fire to obey these orders with precision of parade. Of my whole regiment but one man manifested symptoms of cowardice, and but two improperly left the ranks.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. F. WEAD,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. C. H. LAWRENCE,
A. A. G., 3d Brig., 1st Div., 18th Corps.

No. 52.

Report of Brig. Gen. Hiram Burnham, U. S. Army, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 7–16.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 22, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command during the recent engagements with the enemy:

In the movements of the 7th instant, to cut the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, this brigade took the advance, with the ex-

ception of a small force of cavalry. The command left camp at daybreak, and after proceeding about 4 miles in the direction of the railroad, encountered the enemy, strongly posted on rising ground, with a swamp and tangled growth of underbrush in their front. Here the cavalry was withdrawn, the Eighth Connecticut Volunteers thrown forward as skirmishers, and my other three regiments deployed in line on the right of the road. The enemy were at once engaged, and finally, after a skirmish of some duration, were pressed back upon the railroad by the skirmishers of the Eighth Connecticut, my whole line of battle moving up in support. Colonel Drake at this time moved his brigade into position on my left, and my command was moved farther to the right, the Eighth Connecticut being thrown forward in line of battle under a hot fire from the enemy's artillery, until they became warmly engaged with the enemy's line, which was posted behind the embankment of the railroad. The Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, Colonel Stevens, was thrown forward to support this regiment, the remaining two regiments being held in reserve. A ravine prevented the Eighth Connecticut from reaching the railroad, but Colonel Ward attacked the enemy with a well-sustained fire of musketry, and kept them warmly engaged for a considerable time, while the forces on our right reached and destroyed the railroad track. This object having been accomplished, the Eighth Connecticut was withdrawn without molestation from the enemy, upon whom it must have inflicted a severe loss, and with my brigade I covered the withdrawal of our forces from the railroad, holding an advanced position with the Tenth and Thirteenth New Hampshire Regiments until 6 p. m., when my whole force was withdrawn and returned to camp. The fighting of this day fell mostly upon the Eighth Connecticut, which sustained considerable loss, but behaved handsomely, driving the enemy in spirited manner wherever it met them.

My thanks are especially due to Col. J. E. Ward, commanding that regiment, both for his coolness and gallantry and the able manner in which he handled his regiment. I regret to say that he was wounded in the engagement, his injuries being sufficiently serious to deprive me of his services for the present. On the morning of the 9th instant my brigade again left camp, and with the other troops of the division moved out in the direction of Petersburg, passing over the same road which was taken on the 7th instant. The Petersburg and Richmond Railroad was reached without opposition from the enemy. In obedience to orders from General Brooks, I moved my command along the railroad in the direction of Petersburg, and encountered the enemy this side of Swift Creek. I at once drew my command up in line of battle on the left of the railroad, and with my skirmishers attacked the enemy and drove them across the creek. Subsequently I advanced my line nearly up to the Shippen house and sent forward one regiment, the Tenth New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. J. Coughlin, to support Hunt's battery, which moved into position between that house and the railroad, and shelled the enemy's bridges across the creek. My brigade now connected with General Marston's on my right, while my skirmishers extended well around toward General Martindale's command on the left. Being considerably annoyed by the enemy's sharpshooters on the opposite side of the creek to the left of the Shippen house, I strengthened my skirmish line with the two flank companies of the Eighth Connecticut Volunteers, armed with Sharps rifles, and ordered them

to drive the enemy out or silence their fire, which they soon did. Just at night I modified my line, by order of General Brooks, by placing the Eighth Connecticut, Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, on the right of the road, to fill a space between General Marston's brigade and my own. At about 11 o'clock at night the enemy in some force charged upon my pickets in front of the Shippen house, forcing them back some distance, when Lieutenant-Colonel Coughlin at the head of his regiment charged in turn upon the enemy, drove them back in confusion, and re-established the picket-line in its original position. At a later hour the enemy again attacked and drove in my skirmishers, when he was again met by Lieutenant-Colonel Coughlin and driven back, after a spirited skirmish. On the 10th a portion of my command was engaged in destroying the railroad track, my lines remaining unchanged until about 3 p. m., when, in obedience to orders from General Brooks, I withdrew my command as soon as General Marston had retired on my right and returned to camp. The enemy seeing the movement, threw a few shells at my skirmishers as they retired, but did no injury and made no attempt to follow us. On the 12th instant, in pursuance of orders, my command moved out from camp at 7 a. m. in the direction of the Richmond turnpike, and on reaching this pike moved up it in the direction of Drewry's Bluff. On encountering the enemy near Dr. Cheatham's house, my brigade was drawn up in line on the left of the turnpike with General Weitzel's on my right and the Third Brigade, Colonel Sanders, on my left. My skirmishers engaged the enemy, and the necessary dispositions having been made, they were ordered to advance, and the enemy were steadily pushed back for quite a distance, my line of battle moving up in support of the skirmishers. While the advance was being made the Tenth New Hampshire was much annoyed by a hot fire from a considerable body of the enemy stationed on the right of the road in the vicinity of some old barracks. Lieutenant-Colonel Coughlin promptly crossed the pike, charged the position with his regiment, drove the enemy from it, and captured some 20 prisoners. The advance was continued until the enemy was driven behind Proctor's Creek, the loss in my command being quite small. On the 13th skirmishing was resumed, the enemy being pressed steadily back, until in the afternoon my skirmishers had passed the Half-Way House, and arrived in front of the enemy's intrenchments. During the latter part of the afternoon the skirmishing was quite lively at times, the enemy making an unsuccessful attempt to dislodge my skirmishers from the woods in rear of Friend's house. In the evening, it being supposed that the enemy was evacuating his works in my front, by order of General Brooks, I directed the skirmishers to advance cautiously and feel of the enemy, and it was ascertained that a considerable force was still in front of me.

On the morning of the 14th I advanced my brigade and occupied the works of the enemy in my front, which were found to have been evacuated during the night. The enemy had retired to some powerful earth-works on the right of the pike, from which he opened a warm artillery fire upon my command as it moved up to occupy the deserted line of works. I deployed my command in line under the cover of the works, my right resting on the turnpike, and my left connecting with Colonel Sanders' brigade. I remained in this position during the 14th and 15th, changing the works, so that they

formed a good line of defense for my command. During these two days some skirmishing occurred in my front, the details of which are unimportant.

On the morning of the 16th instant my command was under arms at 3.30 o'clock. Immediately after daylight the enemy commenced an attack upon our lines. My brigade was shelled quite severely, while the enemy made a furious attack with his infantry on the troops to the right of the pike. Our forces here having been withdrawn, the attack gradually extended to the left, and in the course of an hour my brigade became considerably involved in the fight. My skirmishers were driven in after an obstinate resistance, bringing with them 30 prisoners. The attack now became more furious, when Lieut. Col. M. B. Smith, commanding the Eighth Connecticut Volunteers, on the extreme right of my brigade, next to the pike, after making but feeble resistance, abandoned the line of fortifications in a very discreditable manner, and ordered his regiment to fall back, which it did in considerable confusion. The remaining three regiments met the attack of the enemy, and, pouring a withering fire of musketry upon him, drove him back in confusion. The attack was again renewed, the enemy attempting to carry the position by a furious charge, but he was again repulsed, with a heavy loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners. I think, on this occasion, that some telegraph wire which I had ordered to be strung on the stumps in front of our position had a good effect in throwing the enemy into confusion as he charged my position. The fight continued to rage hotly, my command holding its position with great tenacity, with the exception that the line of the One hundred and eighteenth New York was somewhat modified to protect the right flank of the brigade, which was strongly threatened by the enemy. At about 10 o'clock the brigade was withdrawn to the edge of the woods, by order of General Brooks, the enemy at that time having been driven completely from our front, my brigade, besides heavy loss inflicted upon him in killed and wounded, bringing off rising 100 prisoners. Soon after the brigade was withdrawn to the Half-Way House, my skirmishers being left to hold Friend's house, and the woods to the left of that house, which they did until late in the afternoon. The Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers was left at the Half-Way House to support a battery, and my other three regiments were drawn up in line on the right of the turnpike, forming the extreme left of the Eighteenth Corps. At about 3 p. m. an advance of the whole line was ordered, in which the brigade participated, meeting with no resistance from the enemy. Subsequently, having been rejoined by the Tenth New Hampshire, and my skirmishers left to hold Friend's house, I marched to camp, in obedience to orders from General Brooks.

In this entire series of engagements my loss was 418 officers and men. I think the endurance and bravery displayed by the men of this command very creditable and worthy of commendation.

I take pleasure in bringing to your favorable notice Col. A. F. Stevens, of the Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers; Lieut. Col. John Coughlin, of the Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers; Lieut. Col. George F. Nichols and Maj. C. E. Pruyn, One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers, for the tenacity and bravery with which they held their positions in the engagement of the 16th instant. Major Pruyn, of the One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers, commanded his regiment in this battle after the wound-

ing of Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols, and brought the regiment off with ranks well closed and every man in his place, notwithstanding the fact that that regiment had lost nearly 200 men in killed and wounded. The gallant conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Coughlin, of the Tenth New Hampshire, on the night of May 9 at Swift Creek, and also in charging the enemy on the 12th, is worthy of special mention. I have also to bring to your notice the good conduct of Maj. J. F. Angell, of the Tenth New Hampshire, who commanded my skirmishers on the night of the 13th in front of the enemy's works, on which occasion he was severely wounded. I have already mentioned the gallantry of Col. J. E. Ward, of the Eighth Connecticut Volunteers, and the good conduct of his regiment in the engagement of the 7th. There are numerous other instances of gallant and meritorious conduct which can only be enumerated in a special report for that purpose.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. BURNHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA

*Itinerary of the Second Brigade, First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, May 4–31.**

May 4.—The brigade embarked on transports at Yorktown and set sail for Bermuda Hundred.

May 5.—Arrived at that place.

May 6.—Disembarked.

May 7.—Fought the enemy on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad.

May 9 and 10.—Were engaged with the enemy at Swift Creek.

May 12 to 15, inclusive, skirmishing with the enemy along the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike and in the vicinity of Drewry's Bluff.

May 16.—The brigade participated in the battle of Proctor's Creek; returned to camp at Bermuda Hundred at night.

May 27.—Moved camp back near landing at Bermuda Hundred.

May 29.—Embarked on transports.

May 30. Arrived at White House and disembarked.

May 31.—Marched to camp near New Castle.

No. 53.

Report of Lieut. Col. Martin B. Smith, Eighth Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 7–16.

HDQRS. EIGHTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLS.,
Near Petersburg, Va., May 18, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of my regiment in the recent engagements with the enemy from the 6th to the 16th instant:

The regiment left camp at daybreak on the morning of the 7th, was ordered to the front as skirmishers, driving the enemy from a strong position in the woods and then advanced in line of battle and

* From return for May.

engaged the enemy, who were strongly posted behind the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad embankment, until ordered to fall back for want of ammunition. We returned to camp that night, the loss being 4 killed, 61 wounded, and 7 missing; among the wounded were 4 commissioned officers. The regiment again left camp on the morning of the 9th. During the day the two flank companies were engaged as skirmishers. The regiment during the morning was held as reserve for the brigade on their advance toward Petersburg. About noon the regiment was ordered into a position on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad by General Brooks; this position we held until night-fall, in the mean time having destroyed a portion of the railroad. At 6 p. m. we were ordered to form in line of battle on the right of the brigade line; this position we held until the afternoon of the 10th, when we were withdrawn to a position under cover of the woods, which we held until the withdrawal of the pickets, our loss being 1 killed and 2 wounded, all enlisted men. We returned to the camp on the afternoon of the 10th.

On the morning of the 12th, in accordance with orders received, we advanced with the brigade up the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike. The regiment was constantly to the front from this date until the evening of the 16th, a large portion of the time acting in connection with the One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers as a reserve for the skirmishers. Advancing slowly toward the outer works around Fort Darling, on the morning of the 14th, in connection with One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers, we charged and captured the enemy's outer line of intrenchments, and were ordered into position along the line of works, our right resting on the turnpike. This position we held until the morning of the 16th, when the enemy charged on our forces to our right and drove them, leaving our flank entirely exposed. Finding our right flank thus exposed, I ordered three companies to protect the flank, but it was found impossible to hold that position, therefore they fell back under cover of the woods. We held our position on the works for some time, with considerable loss, until flanked both right and left, when we fell back in as good order as possible, under the circumstances, the fog and smoke being so dense that it was impossible for officers or men to distinguish each other. We then took a position between the Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers and One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers. We remained in this position until the One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers fell back, when we took our position on the right of the Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers, where we remained until nearly noon, when we were ordered to fall back. Not to expose my men more than possible, I ordered them to fall back 2 or 3 at a time. On the afternoon of the 16th we moved together with the brigade forward to near the enemy's works, where we remained until evening, when ordered to fall back to camp. Our loss from May 12 to 16 was 7 killed, 30 wounded, and 28 missing; this number includes 1 commissioned officer killed and 1 wounded.

Too much praise cannot be given to both officers and men for the faithful performance of every duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. B. SMITH,

Lieut. Col., Comdg. Eighth Connecticut Vols.

Brig. Gen. H. J. MORSE.

Adjutant-General, State of Connecticut.

No. 54.

Report of Col. Aaron F. Stevens, Thirteenth New Hampshire Infantry, of operations May 7-16.

HDQRS. THIRTEENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS,
May 19, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with Special Orders, No. 18, dated headquarters Second Brigade, First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, May 19, 1864, I have the honor to report the operations of the regiment under my command in the recent engagements with the enemy from the 6th to the 16th instant:

On the morning of the 7th instant we left camp in light marching order; proceeded toward the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad. About 4 miles from camp the column came up with the enemy. The Eighth Connecticut being deployed as skirmishers, my regiment, in connection with others of the brigade, deployed in line of battle to the right of the road and supported the skirmishers. We advanced in line and occupied the position from which the enemy had been driven. We afterward moved to the right of that position in order to support the Eighth Connecticut, who were then skirmishing with the enemy. The last named regiment was soon withdrawn, and my regiment, in connection with the Tenth New Hampshire, held the advance until orders were given to retire. We lost in this day's operations one man only—Sergt. Gilman Davis, Company A, who was mortally wounded.

Monday, the 9th instant, the regiment left camp about 5 a. m., and marched over the same road and deployed in line on the left at a point nearly opposite the position occupied on the Saturday preceding. A line of skirmishers from the Eighty-first New York having been deployed on our front, my regiment moved forward in support on the left of the brigade, Company C being thrown out as flankers on the left. We moved without meeting the enemy to the line of the Port Walthall Branch Railroad. From this point we moved to the right and down the Petersburg road and by the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad to within a mile of Swift Creek, where we were again deployed in line, and Companies B and E, under command of Captain Julian, were deployed as skirmishers on the left, the remainder of the regiment remaining in support of the skirmish line. The enemy having been driven by the skirmishers across the creek, my regiment took position in the brigade line in rear of Shippen's house. This position was maintained until the next day about noon, when we retired under orders. At night my skirmishers were relieved by Companies F and G of my regiment, under command of Captain Stoodley. About 8 o'clock that night the pickets of the Tenth New Hampshire, in advance of the line, were driven in upon their supports by a charge of the enemy, but he was repulsed and driven back promptly by the Tenth. We remained in support of the Tenth during the night, firing being renewed from time to time by the enemy. In this day's operations Privates George E. Bodge and William F. Staples, of Company B, were severely wounded while skirmishing with the enemy. In the operations of the succeeding day Private Charles Heath, of Company H, was severely wounded in the head by a musket-ball, and Corpl. James L. Glenville, of Company D, was wounded in the wrist, as he states, while

absent from his company in the line of skirmishers. On the afternoon of the 10th instant we returned to camp.

The regiment left camp about 7 o'clock on the morning of the 12th instant and moved with its brigade to the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike, which it crossed and took its position on the west side of the turnpike near Dr. Cheatham's house (Company K, Captain Betton, were deployed as flankers to protect our left). At this point Company H (Captain Smith) and Company I (Captain Goss) were deployed as skirmishers. The remainder of the regiment moved in line through the woods and a swamp to the turnpike, capturing 4 prisoners. For some cause a gap had been opened in the line of skirmishers and I found my regiment when we again reached the turnpike unexpectedly under the fire of the enemy's artillery and considerably in advance of the line of skirmishers. I at once withdrew it from its position to the line of support. We encamped that night near the position last mentioned. In the operations of that day Private George F. Harmon, Company A, was killed, and Private Robert Oliver, Company C, and James Mooney, Company D, were wounded by the enemy's shell. On the 13th instant we moved forward with the command across Falling Creek and skirmished with the enemy during the day, Companies A, C, and D of my regiment being on duty as skirmishers that day and actively engaged with the enemy during the day and night. In this day's operation Sergt. Nathaniel F. Meserve, of Company A, was killed. Sergt. Charles W. Batchelder, Corpl. John E. Prescott, Private John McCarty, of Company D, and Corpl. W. D. Carr, of Company G, were wounded.

On the morning of the 14th instant we started at 6 o'clock and moved forward in support of the line of skirmishers. We soon came upon the outer works of the enemy at Drewry's Bluff and took position in connection with the brigade on the left of the turnpike, where we remained until the morning of the 16th. My regiment lost in the operations of the 14th Privates George W. Hutchins, of Company A, Eli Huntoon, Austin Gilman, and Henry Lynch, of Company D, Jeremiah Morrow, of Company H, and Joseph F. Lampson, of Company I, wounded. Company I (Captain Goss) relieved the three above-named companies in the skirmish line and there remained until relieved by Company B (Lieutenant Gafney), who remained on the skirmish line until about the time we were ordered to retire on the morning of the 16th. On Sunday, the 15th, the regiment was not engaged, but occupied its position at the earth-works.

At 3.30 a. m. on Monday, the 16th, the regiment was under arms. Soon after daylight a brisk firing was heard on our right and soon extended to our front. The fog was dense, but it was apparent that our skirmishers in front were hotly engaged with the enemy. About an hour after sunrise the fog lifted sufficiently to enable us to discover the enemy maneuvering and apparently massing his troops in the edge of the woods in front and to the left of us, with a view to an assault upon our position. My regiment opened fire, and about the same time Lieutenant Gafney with his skirmishers retired and rejoined the regiment. They had captured 24 prisoners, including 2 officers. At this time the enemy in large numbers was plainly to be seen in the edge of the woods. They kept up a continuous fire upon our position. The fighting continued until about 9 a. m., when we received peremptory orders to retire from the position. We crossed the field in our rear without casualty and took position in the edge of the woods on the west of the turnpike. Company E (Captain

Julian) was deployed at the edge of the woods as skirmishers to cover the retreat and was withdrawn when the column retired in the afternoon. The regiment retired with the brigade, recrossed the turnpike, and took position east of the Half-Way House. Company H (Captain Smith) was here thrown out as flankers. The regiment moved into camp that afternoon at the head of the column. The casualties on the 16th were Sergt. Nathaniel E. Dickey, of Company B, Private Andrew M. Dunsmore, of Company C, Corpl. John S. Cheney, of Company D, Corpl. W. B. Lewis, of Company I, and Second Lieut. Robert R. Thompson, of Company H, wounded; Private John H. Harvey, of Company E, and Corpl. John C. Walker, Company H, killed. Private Owen McMann, of Company E, missing.

The following-named officers only took part in these operations, viz: A. F. Stevens, colonel commanding; Maj. William Grantman; Capt. E. E. Dodge, acting major; Capt. Normand Smith, commanding Company H; Capt. N. D. Stoodley, commanding Company G; Capt. George N. Julian, commanding Company E; Capt. Matthew T. Betton, commanding Company K; Capt. E. W. Goss, commanding Company I; Capt. Buel C. Carter, commanding Company A.

First two days only: Capt. George Farr, commanding Company D; First Lieut. James M. Durell, commanding Company C; First Lieut. Charles B. Gafney, commanding Company B; First Lieut. H. W. Hall, commanding Company A; First Lieut. J. Dustin, commanding Company F; Second Lieut. H. Churchill, Company A; Second Lieut. C. C. Favor, Company B; Second Lieut. A. J. Sherman, Company D; Second Lieut. S. M. Thompson, Company E; Second Lieut. George H. Taggard, Company F; Second Lieut. L. C. Oliver, Company G; Second Lieut. R. R. Thompson, Company H; Chaplain George G. Jones; First Lieut. R. P. Staniels, acting adjutant; First Lieut. M. L. Morrison, regimental quartermaster; Dr. E. Morrill, assistant surgeon.

This list is exclusive of officers detached and on the general staff. Drs. Richardson and Sullivan were on detached service at the hospital.

The conduct of the officers and men of the command was commendable. They endured the fatigue and met the dangers of seven days' marching and fighting without flinching, and, under all the circumstances, with commendable promptness and alacrity. I beg leave to commend particularly the tenacity with which they held their position on the morning of the 16th (in connection with the Tenth New Hampshire, posted on their right) against two lines of the enemy for some time after it was known that our right had been turned and the troops on our immediate left had retired across the field.

A portion of the camp and garrison equipage of the regiment, together with officers' baggage, adjutant and quartermaster books and papers were brought up to our position on Sunday evening, 15th. In retiring from our position the next morning, we, in common with other regiments and commands, were obliged to abandon a considerable share of it. The adjutant and quartermaster desks, books, and papers were necessarily left upon the field and lost.

The following is the report of prisoners captured by my regiment:

By Company A, Lieutenant Hall commanding	1
By Company B, Lieutenant Gafney commanding	24
By Company D, Captain Farr commanding	10

By Company E, Captain Julian commanding 3
By Company I, Captain Goss commanding 1
By Company K, Captain Betton, commanding. 5

Total. 50

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[A. F. STEVENS,]

Colonel 15th New Hampshire Vols., Commanding.

Capt. C. A. CLARK,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 55.

Report of Col. Horace T. Sanders, Nineteenth Wisconsin Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations May 12-16.

HDQRS. NINETEENTH REGT. WISCONSIN VOLUNTEERS,
Point of Rocks, Va., May 24, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following detailed report of the movements of the Third Brigade, First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, in the late march to the front, commencing on the 12th and ending on the 16th instant, both days inclusive:

The Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, commanded by Lieut. Col. R. M. Strong, and the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanded by Lieut. Col. George K. Bowen, moved from camp near Point of Rocks at 6 a. m. of the 12th instant, following the brigade commanded by Brigadier-General Marston. At 10 a. m. the Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers were drawn up in line of battle, the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers in column of divisions, in an open field near the pike. At 12 m. we were ordered to advance in the same order. After a march of about one-half mile through a dense thicket or chaparral, the brigade halted at the brow of a hill on the left of and near the pike. At this point Companies A, C, and F, Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, were thrown out as skirmishers on the left of the brigade, the right of the line of skirmishers resting on the pike.

May 13, at daylight, the brigade moved by the left flank to a field about one-half mile distant and halted for a short time, the skirmishers deployed the day previous not having been called in. An advance was then ordered across the field, fording Kingsland Creek by the right flank, arriving in front of the Half-Way House at 11 a. m. The brigade then formed in column of divisions in the woods on the left of General Burnham's brigade. In the mean time the line of skirmishers had advanced and taken possession of the outbuildings of the brick house near Drewry's Bluff. They were attacked by a superior force and compelled to retire to the open field with a loss of 11 men wounded. At this point a re-enforcement of three companies of the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, under command of Major Reichard, was sent out. A charge was instantly made and the enemy driven back to his former position in rear of the brick house. This timely move checked the enemy when he least expected it. In this charge the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers sustained

a loss of 1 sergeant killed and 4 privates wounded. The command maintained this position during the night. At 6 p. m. the skirmishers of the Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers were relieved by the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

May 14, at daylight, the brigade was advanced under a severe fire to the enemy's first line of works, comprising the defenses of Drewry's Bluff. In the advance across the open field in front of the works, we sustained a loss of 2 privates in the Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, and 4 privates in the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, wounded. At 9 a. m. this line advanced to the woods and formed a line of battle under shelter of the timber. The enemy occasionally shelled our position during the day without injury until 3 p. m., when a shell from the enemy killed 2 and wounded 2 men of the Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers and 1 man of the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers. During the day and night of the 14th and 15th instant the command was under arms and ready to move at a moment's notice.

May 16, at 6 a. m., the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers moved and took a new position in line of battle on the pike in rear of corps headquarters. Owing to the density of the fog I am unable to give the exact location. From this front the right wing made a vigorous and determined charge on the enemy for the purpose of retaking a portion of Captain Bolger's Rhode Island Battery. In this charge the loss of the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers was severe, a detailed statement of which has been heretofore forwarded in the list of casualties. About 9 a. m. the Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers was ordered to retire and take position under cover of the woods in front of the Half-Way House. Here the One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers rejoined the brigade and took position on the left. At 10.30 a. m. the command moved and formed line of battle on the left of Brigadier-General Weitzel's division. At 2.30 p. m. we moved in order of battle in echelon to the woods on the left. In this advance the loss of the Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers was severe, being 2 killed and 10 wounded. We then retired to camp near Point of Rocks without further accident.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. T. SANDERS,
Colonel Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers.

Capt. THEODORE READ,
Asst. Adjt Gen., First Div., Eighteenth Army Corps.

No. 56.

Report of Col. Arthur H. Dutton, Twenty-first Connecticut Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations May 16.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to orders from headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps, calling upon me for a statement of orders carried or given by me during the engagements of the 12th to 16th instant, I have the honor to submit the following:

I have no recollection of any orders given by me during any engagement prior to that of the 16th instant. If any was given it in-

volved no movement of sufficient importance to make an impression on my mind. Early on the morning of the 16th instant, having notified Major-General Smith of the disaster to Heckman's brigade, I was directed to call on Brigadier-General Ames for re-enforcements for our right. General Ames had already sent the One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers to the right and front, they being guided through the dense fog only by the sound of musketry. He had remaining only the Ninth Maine Volunteers, which he turned over to me, and which I instantly conducted up the turnpike, then via the cross-road to the road parallel to the turnpike, across which Heckman's brigade had originally been formed some distance farther to the front. Here I learned that the One hundred and twelfth New York had in advancing received a severe volley from the enemy in ambush, mortally wounding the commanding officer and killing and wounding many others. This, together with the density of the fog and the temporary cessation of firing, made me suspicious that the enemy were striving to turn our right still more completely by passing between our infantry and the river and taking us in rear. I therefore directed the colonel of the Ninth Maine to hold the cross-road until I could communicate with Major-General Smith. General Smith, hearing my report, ordered me to cause this regiment to picket our right until connection should be made with the colored cavalry, whose pickets extended to the river. I made this disposition and was about to post the reserves and the One hundred and twelfth New York in a position to advance when Brigadier-General Weitzel took charge of them. Shortly afterward I was directed by the latter officer to cause these regiments to fall back slowly to the open space nearly abreast of the Half-Way House, still holding the road parallel to the turnpike. Having conducted them to that position and formed them in line I rejoined General Smith.

Later, during the engagement, I carried to Brigadier-General Brooks an order to the effect that General Weitzel's left being in danger he (General Brooks) would close into the right and protect General Weitzel's left flank. No other orders of importance were given by me during the day.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. DUTTON,
Colonel Twenty-first Connecticut Vols., Comdg. Brigade.

Lieut. Col. NICOLAS BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 57.

Report of Lieut. Col. Thomas F. Burpee, Twenty-first Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 15-16.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FIRST CONNECTICUT VOL. INFTY.,
In the Field near Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteer Infantry during the 15th and 16th instant:

At 3 p. m. of the 15th I was ordered to report to General Weitzel with the regiment under my command, and was by him placed under

the command of General Heckman, commanding the brigade on the extreme right. A short time before sundown on the 15th the regiment took its position on the left of the brigade of General Heckman, with the left joining the right of General Wistar's command, which position we were ordered to hold at all hazards. The pickets were kept well out to the front during the night, but nothing unusual transpired till about 4 o'clock on the morning of the 16th, when a very heavy fire of musketry was opened on the right of our brigade, accompanied by tremendous yelling. After this firing had mostly ceased my own pickets became warmly engaged and reported that a body of the enemy were passing around to the right by the flank. The fog was so dense that nothing could be seen at a distance, and the enemy's artillery were playing upon us with shell and case-shot. I went to the regiment next on my right, the Eighth Maine Volunteers, to ascertain the state of affairs, and found that regiment moving away by the flank, and learned that the right had been completely crushed. The Eighth Maine then took a position at right angles with that held by my regiment, with its left resting on my center, but subsequently it advanced sufficiently to bring its left to my right.

During this time my skirmishers and their supports had been warmly engaged, receiving a fire in front and flank. At this time they were driven in by an advance of the enemy in line. A few volleys from the breast-works compelled this line to retire, and the skirmishers were again thrown out. About this time I received information that re-enforcements were coming to our assistance and would again occupy the old line on the right of my regiment. I then charged forward my right wing, which had swung around to the rear along the line of breast-works three times to regain their position, and succeeded in forcing back the enemy about 100 yards to its former position, and the Eighth Maine attempted a similar movement, but by the time two of its companies had got into position they were received by a galling fire in front and flank, which compelled them to retire, leaving my flank and rear entirely unprotected. I then changed front to rear, bringing my left into and at right angles with the right of General Wistar's line. By the time this movement was completed the regiment on my left retired, leaving my regiment alone on the line, and, being hard pressed, receiving a fire on both flanks and in front, I retired slowly in line, fighting, until I reached the cross-roads leading out of the swamp, which I followed into the open field. Here the brigade line was reformed and advanced into the woods about 100 yards, under the orders of Colonel Wead, of the Ninety-eighth New York, where we remained about thirty minutes warmly engaged, and then retired with the rest of Colonel Wead's command into the field. Subsequently with the brigade we took a position on the second line, where we remained until 6 p. m., about which time we retired to the line of intrenchments, acting as rear guard for the division. The following is the list of casualties.*

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[THOS. F. BURPEE.]

Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

ASST. ADJT. GEN., BRIG. GEN. WEITZEL'S COMMAND.

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 14 enlisted men killed, 6 officers and 63 enlisted men wounded, and 24 enlisted men missing: total, 6 officers and 101 enlisted men.

No. 58.

Report of Maj. Hiram B. Crosby, Twenty-first Connecticut Infantry, of operations May 25–26.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FIRST REGT., CONNECTICUT VOLS.,
June 6, 1864.

GENERAL: On the 25th of May, Col. A. H. Dutton, commanding the brigade, having received orders from Maj. Gen. William F. Smith to reconnoiter the left of the enemy's position, near our line of intrenchments at Bermuda Hundred, designated this regiment for that purpose. The regiment passed outside our lines and crossed the deep and almost impassable ravine that runs along the left of our works until it meets the Appomattox. On the farther side of the ravine the left wing was posted in reserve, and the remaining companies were advanced to the front. Our skirmishers swept along the west bank of the ravine, and thence farther into the interior, coming well on to the enemy's right flank. But night coming on, Colonel Dutton recalled the skirmishers, and the regiment returned to camp, with orders to be ready to continue the reconnaissance early the next morning.

On the day following, the 26th, Colonel Dutton again crossed the ravine with the brigade, consisting of the Twenty-first Connecticut, Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania, One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania, and Ninety-second New York, with orders to push the reconnaissance until stopped by the enemy. General Devens' brigade also moved out on our extreme left along the Port Walthall road, to co-operate with Colonel Dutton, who took up the line of march in the direction of Port Walthall. After an advance of about 2 miles through heavy woods, our skirmish line came upon the rebels, strongly intrenched and almost hidden from view by the thick underbrush. Line of battle was formed at once, but as our skirmishers were becoming engaged, Colonel Dutton, who was then, as usual, on the skirmish line, was mortally wounded. The command then devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel Burpee, Twenty-first Connecticut—as General Devens had not succeeded in uniting with our brigade. Colonel Burpee shortly afterward received orders from the major-general commanding to retire, as the enemy were then massing opposite the center of our intrenched line.

Colonel Dutton died from the effect of his wound on the 5th of June. He graduated at West Point in 1861, Kilpatrick, Custer, O'Rorke, Benjamin, and Farquhar being among his classmates. Bold and chivalrous, with a nice sense of honor, a judgment quick and decisive, an unwavering zeal in his chosen profession, he was in every respect a thorough soldier. As an engineer, his talents were of the highest order, and at the time of his death he had attained the rank of captain of engineers in the regular army. By his companions in arms he will never be forgotten, and to them his last resting place will be as a shrine commemorating the friendships which the rude shock of war nor lapse of time can blight or destroy.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HIRAM B. CROSBY,
Major, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. H. J. MORSE,
Adjutant-General of Connecticut.

No. 59.

Report of Maj. Theodore H. Schenck, Third New York Light Artillery, commanding Artillery Brigade, of operations May 6–16.

HDQRS. ARTY. BRIG., FIRST DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS.
In the Field, May 22, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that Batteries L, of the Fourth, and A, of the Fifth U. S. Artillery, a part of this command, arrived at Bermuda Hundred on the morning of the 6th of May, and were immediately disembarked, and joined the First Division about 3 p. m. of that day.

On the 8th day of May the Fourth Wisconsin Battery, Capt. George B. Easterly, reported for duty. Battery K, Third New York Volunteer Artillery, was left at Newport News when the command was embarked, and has not yet reported. On the 6th, by order of Major-General Smith, a section of Battery L, Fourth U. S. Artillery, under the command of Lieutenant Stelges, reported to General Heckman for duty, and engaged the enemy for about one hour, with what success is not known. Loss, 1 man slightly wounded. On the 7th a section of Battery L, Fourth United States, Lieutenant Hunt commanding, engaged the enemy near the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, the enemy having four rifled guns in position. The fire of the section was well directed, and the enemy, having changed position several times, was silenced after an engagement of about one hour, without loss to us; enemy's loss unknown. On Monday, May 9, Battery A, of the Fifth U. S. Artillery, and the Fourth Wisconsin Battery, were ordered to report to General Martindale, commanding brigade. Battery L, Fourth U. S. Artillery, Lieut. J. S. Hunt commanding, remained under the immediate command of General Brooks, commanding First Division.

On the 9th and 10th four guns of this battery (Battery L, Fourth U. S. Artillery) were engaged at different times in shelling a bridge on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, with but little apparent damage to the bridge, though the fire evidently prevented the enemy from placing a battery at the end of the bridge held by them. On the 9th the Fourth Wisconsin Battery engaged an earth-work of the enemy near the Appomattox River, at a distance of 2,300 yards, the enemy opposing the battery with one 32-pounder gun. The fire of the Fourth Wisconsin silenced that of the enemy after an engagement of one hour. The battery did not sustain any loss. Battery A, Fifth U. S. Artillery, was not engaged. On the 13th the whole command moved on the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike, toward Richmond. Near the Half-Way House Battery L lost 1 horse, being posted in a field near the turnpike in the rear of Battery E, Third New York Volunteer Artillery, which was engaged with the enemy. On the 14th Battery L, Fourth United States, and the Fourth Wisconsin Battery, were engaged in shelling an earth-work of the enemy near Drewry's Bluff. Here, the batteries being subjected to the fire of a battery of the enemy concealed by the woods, 1 man was wounded in the Fourth Wisconsin Battery by the explosion of a case-shot. On the 15th none of the batteries of the command were engaged. Battery L, Fourth U. S. Artillery, and the Fourth Wisconsin Battery, were posted on a hill about 900 yards from and in rear of the position of the day previous. Battery A, Fifth U. S. Artillery, was in position on the right of the turnpike and about

1,000 yards in front of the earth-work of the enemy. On the 16th the three batteries of the command were in position in line to the right of and front of the Half-Way House. At daybreak the fog was so dense as to render artillery almost useless, and about one hour after daybreak the command was withdrawn, by command of Major-General Smith, to a hill about 1,200 yards in rear of the Half-Way House, on the left of the turnpike. Battery A, Fifth U. S. Artillery, Lieutenant Beecher commanding, was ordered to the front occupied by the battery in the morning. An attack was made by the enemy, in the repulse of which Battery A was engaged, using canister at 400 yards. On the afternoon of this day the command returned to its present camp, with the exception of one section of the Fourth Wisconsin and one section of Battery A, Fifth U. S. Artillery, ordered to report to General Gillmore, which sections joined the command that night.

The losses of the command have been previously reported. From remaining constantly in harness, the necks of the artillery horses are much galled.

Respectfully submitted.

THEO. H. SCHENCK,
Maj., Comdg. Arty. Brig., First Div., 18th Army Corps.

Capt. THEODORE READ,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Div., Eighteenth Army Corps.

No. 60.

Report of Capt. George B. Easterly, Fourth Wisconsin Battery, of operations May 7–21.

CAMP FOURTH WISCONSIN LIGHT BATTERY,
Near Petersburg, May 21, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Fourth Wisconsin Light Battery from its arrival at Bermuda Hundred to the present date:

The battery disembarked at Bermuda Hundred on the 7th instant, with the exception of 53 horses, on board of a schooner, which, on account of getting aground in the James River, did not arrive until the forenoon of the 8th instant. On the evening of the same day the battery reported for duty at the headquarters of the First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps. At daylight on the morning of the 9th instant the battery marched with one day's rations, under command of Brigadier-General Martindale, in the direction of Petersburg, on right bank of the River Appomattox. At 11 a. m. position was taken near the river on a small bluff to the left of Fort Clifton, a rebel work on the junction of Swift Creek and the Appomattox, at a distance of 2,350 yards. The enemy immediately opened fire, throwing 32-pound shrapnel. The fire from the battery soon silenced them. The only casualty occurring was the loss of my private horse, a shrapnel shell passing through him. In about an hour I retired from this position, leaving one section with directions to keep up a fire at intervals. I moved forward with four guns, with the Third Brigade, First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, and camped with it until next morning near Swift Creek. On the morn-

.g of the 10th instant I was ordered to report to Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith. At 11 a. m. I received orders to return to camp occupied the 8th instant, the section posted by itself to return as the infantry in its front retired by it. Friday, the 13th instant, at 1 p. m., I received orders to move with my battery to the front on the turnpike road. I reached there and remained over night on the road 2,000 yards in rear of the Half-Way House.

At 8 a. m. the 14th instant I was ordered into position close to the first line of works abandoned by the enemy, in a field to the left of the Friend brick house, and opened fire on a redoubt of the enemy's second line, 1,000 yards distant. No reply was elicited. While in this position I was subjected to an oblique fire from the enemy's guns concealed from view by a strip of woods. One cannoneer was wounded by the explosion of a case-shell. I expended during the day 232 rounds of ammunition. At night I camped on the extreme right of the open ground in front of the Half-Way House, with battery in position. At daylight the 15th instant I returned with battery and occupied the same position as the previous day, and was shortly ordered to a position about 700 yards to the rear, still commanding the enemy's redoubt. I did not open fire during the day, and at night I retired and camped as the night before. At daylight of the 16th instant I occupied the position held the 15th. The dense fog prevented me from opening fire. I remained here until ordered to gain the turnpike with all haste. I had one man wounded on reaching the turnpike. While leaving my position I received a few shots from the artillery of the enemy. I was again posted on a hill to the left of the turnpike and 1,500 yards in rear of the Half-Way House and remained there until late in the afternoon, when I was ordered to return to camp now occupied, which I reached at 5 p. m. While returning one section of my battery was detached and ordered to report to Major-General Gillmore, who immediately, on its reporting to him, ordered its return.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. B. EASTERLY,
Captain, &c.

Maj. THEODORE H. SCHENCK,
Comdg. Arty. Brig., First Div., Eighteenth Army Corps.

No. 61.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Godfrey Weitzel, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, of operations May 9-16.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cobb's Hill, Va., May 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that in accordance with orders I moved with my whole command, excepting my picket-line and Ashby's battery, at 5.30 a. m., on the 9th instant, following Brooks' division in the direction of the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. As soon as Brooks' deployment was complete I commenced the deployment of Heckman's brigade, so that its left should connect with Brooks' right. This deployment being complete, having in the mean time discovered that the enemy had left our immediate

front, and that a brigade of Ames' division, of the Tenth Corps, had already possession of the railroad in my rear. I moved, as ordered, down the turnpike in the direction of Petersburg, Heckman's brigade in advance, followed by Wistar's brigade, Follett's battery, and one section of Belger's battery, the other two sections of Belger's battery having been detached by order of the commanding general. I met with no serious opposition until I had crossed Tinsberry Creek, when I found the enemy in position with artillery and infantry. I deployed Heckman's brigade, its center resting on the road, put one section of Follett's battery in the road, and with Wistar's brigade in reserve moved forward until I came up with Marston's brigade, of Brooks' division, my artillery and skirmishers engaging the enemy, soon driving off the enemy's artillery, while Marston's brigade was getting in its proper position. The fire of the enemy becoming heavier, I moved Wistar's brigade in line on the right of Heckman's brigade. About the time when Marston's brigade was in its proper position and our skirmishers had been drawn in, preparatory to an attack on the enemy's position, we were charged on by the enemy. This charge was handsomely repulsed by Heckman, who pursued, assisted as much as possible by Wistar, and drove the enemy in confusion until our line had advanced some distance beyond the church. The enemy then opened with artillery from a field-work, commanding the road on the south side of Swift Creek. I ordered up a section of Follett's battery to engage the enemy's artillery, and Heckman to fill his cartridge-boxes. This section of artillery was soon forced to retire by the heavier fire of the enemy, after having nearly all the cannoneers and two horses of one piece disabled. About this time the general commanding left it discretionary with me whether I should continue the attack. Being convinced that there was but a small force of the enemy left on the north side of Swift Creek, and believing that no adequate advantage—to compensate for the loss which would ensue from an advance to the bank of the creek—could be gained, I resolved not to continue the attack, but threw out a strong line of pickets, as directed, and bivouacked for the night in the position the division then held. One brigade of Ames' division, of the Tenth Corps, came into position on the right of Wistar during the fight, and one brigade of Turner's division, of the same corps, took position in the reserve of my line at the same time, both at my request, and remained in these positions during the night.

On the morning of the 10th, at about 11 a. m., Ames' brigade relieved Wistar's, and Turner's brigade relieved Heckman's, as I was ordered to withdraw my division and return to camp. This movement had scarcely been begun when I was ordered to expedite matters and march at once to the support of General Terry, who was reported hard pressed by the enemy, several miles in our rear. I sent Wistar's brigade, which was the first out, at once to report to General Terry. He remained with him until nearly dark, when he was ordered back to my camp by General Gillmore, of the Tenth Corps, and arrived here safely. I followed with Heckman's brigade. As soon as it was relieved sent a staff officer ahead to report to General Terry, to ascertain where my services were needed. I received in reply the thanks of General Terry for the services I had already rendered him and the message "that he needed no further assistance," and therefore ordered Heckman to return to camp, which he reached without any annoyance from the enemy.

A great many of my command were affected by the hot sun and the dust and temporarily disabled. My loss in action during the expedition was as follows: Heckman's brigade, 1 officer killed, 3 officers wounded, 12 enlisted men killed and 97 wounded; Wistar's brigade, 3 enlisted men killed, 1 officer and 20 enlisted men wounded, and 2 enlisted men missing; Follett's battery, 1 wounded, 6 enlisted men (1 mortally, since dead), 2 horses killed. Total loss in the division, 17 killed, 126 wounded, and 2 missing.

General Heckman and his brigade deserve special mention for their conduct on the 6th, 7th, 9th, and 10th instant.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Army Corps.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
U. S. ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
In the Field, May 22, 1864.

COLONEL: In answer to your note of yesterday I have to say the following, viz:

On the morning of the 16th instant my command consisted of Wistar's brigade of four regiments, the Eighth Maine, Twenty-first Connecticut, Ninety-eighth New York Volunteers, and Heckman's brigade of four regiments. The Eighth Maine, Twenty-first Connecticut, and Ninety-eighth New York were all attached to Heckman's brigade and under his immediate command. The whole of my command (eleven regiments) was stretched out in a single line with no second line and reserve. My left rested on the main turnpike road, and my right barely lapped over the direct road to camp, which I was ordered to cover. Between my right and the river, a distance fully three-quarters of a mile, was nothing but a line of cavalry vedettes, and in front of my right and these cavalry vedettes, was a large open plain in which 50,000 men could be massed. I represented the state of affairs repeatedly during the thirty-six hours preceding the attack by the enemy. I was close up to the enemy's works. I was so impressed with my danger, that without any orders I constructed a rude breast-work of logs along my whole front on the day before the attack, and ordered telegraph wire to be stretched in front of this work and wound tightly around stumps, &c., the latter at the suggestion of General Smith. On the afternoon preceding the attack, General Smith, General Heckman, and myself crept out to a farm-house which was in front of my right in the open field and about midway between the lines, and by General Smith's orders I put 60 men in that farm-house to hold it, to strengthen our right. The four regiments of Heckman's brigade were crushed by the attack, but there was no surprise on account of the fog as the whole line was in line of battle and prepared for the shock, having several times received warning from the farm-house. The other seven regiments of my line did not move until (after they had thrice repulsed the enemy with terrible slaughter, he being piled in heaps over the telegraph wire) they were ordered to fall back. After we had assumed our second position covering the direct road home, via Dr.

Howlett's house, I advanced with four regiments in echelon with skirmishers well advanced to recover our ground, in order at least to get our wounded. My skirmish line could not get quite up to the position, because the rebels had a line of battle too strong to attack on this side of our rude breast-work; so that we never regained our original position. I most emphatically say that my line was not forced back at all; four-elevenths of it was crushed, but the other seven-elevenths held their position until they were ordered back. The damage done to Heckman's right was at once repaired by General Smith ordering two regiments of General Ames' division under Colonel Drake to take position across the road on my right and to hold that road. This is said in justice to my men.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL.

Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Chief Engineer.

Lieut. Col. N. BOWEN,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Eighteenth Army Corps, in the Field.

IN THE FIELD, *May* 23, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to orders, I submit herewith the operations of my division (the Second) from the 12th to the 16th instant:

I left camp with my division at daybreak, and proceeded on the shortest road to the turnpike in the direction of Richmond, and, after skirmishing from the time I passed our picket-lines, and after a little artillery firing at Redwater Creek, bivouacked for the night at this side of, and near to, Proctor's Creek, with skirmishers advanced during the night to the banks of the creek. I was re-enforced during the day by the Ninety-eighth New York Regiment, Colonel Weal, in order to enable me to join General Brooks' line with General Turner's line. Early on the 13th I moved forward, and, after skirmishing continually, bivouacked for the night in line of battle on the cross-road which strikes the turnpike at the 9-mile stone. Early on the 14th I again advanced through the dense woods, and, after quite a spirited little fight, drove the rebels within their works, and silenced their artillery, which bore on me, by my sharpshooters and artillery, and bivouacked in line of battle for the night within a few hundred yards of the main line of rebel works, my sharpshooters continually engaged. On the 15th I was re-enforced by the Eighth Maine and Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers, and, after continual sharpshooting all day, bivouacked in the following order for the night: My whole command was in a single line, my left resting on the turnpike, and in the following order from left to right, viz: Wistar's brigade, Twenty-first Connecticut, Eighth Maine, Ninety-eighth New York, and Heckman's brigade. The three regiments were attached to Heckman's brigade, and were under the immediate command of General Heckman. The right of this line barely lapped over the direct and shortest road to our intrenchments. From my right to the river, a distance of fully three-quarters of a mile, was a line of cavalry vedettes. In front of my right, about midway between my line and that of the enemy, in the large open field which was in front of me and the line of vedettes, was a farm-house with outbuildings. This was held by a force of 60 men by order of the major-general commanding the corps. My pickets were strong, and advanced close to the enemy along my whole line. Breast-works of logs had been constructed during the day by my

order along my whole front, and, at the suggestion of the major-general commanding the corps, I ordered telegraph wire to be stretched a short distance in front of this breast-work, and wound tightly around stumps, &c. This was done, except in Heckman's front, and proved of immense service. Why Heckman did not do it I do not know; he received the order. During the night several ineffectual attempts were made by the enemy to dislodge the force in the farm-house, and Heckman's command was in line of battle several times, only a part of his command being allowed to sleep. It is also reported that Capt. J. B. Lawrence, Ninth New Jersey Volunteers (wounded and now at Chesapeake Hospital), who commanded the force at the farm-house, reported to General Heckman that the enemy was massing troops during the night near his position. This was not reported to me at all.

Early on Monday morning, and when the fog was so dense that one could see only a few yards, heavy firing commenced on my right, and shortly afterward along my whole front. Soon Heckman's brigade, after a most stubborn resistance, was crushed by a very large and overwhelming force. The remaining regiments, seven in number, held their ground against repeated attacks of the enemy, repulsing the latter with great slaughter. Soon after the fight began two regiments of the Second Brigade, Third Division, Tenth Army Corps (the Ninth Maine and One hundred and twelfth New York), under Col. J. C. Drake, re-enforced me, and were by me placed across the direct road on my right to check the enemy and hold that road. This was effectually done. After having personally posted these regiments, while on my way to look at the rest of my line, I was ordered to fall back. I gave the order. A short time afterward I was ordered to cease falling back and again to take my old position. These orders produced a slight confusion, but were being consummated when I was again ordered to fall back to the same line with General Brooks. Just before I went to post Colonel Drake's regiments, I ordered one of my staff officers to direct Colonel Pickett, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, the senior officer of Heckman's brigade left, to collect the remnants of the brigade and reform in the open space at the Half-Way House. This was done. After we had retreated to the open space in rear of our position, I formed the Ninety-eighth New York, Twenty-first Connecticut, and Eighth Maine in one brigade, and placed Colonel Wead, Ninety-eighth New York Volunteers, in command of it, and ordered it, with the remnants of the Ninth New Jersey on its left, to advance again. This was done and checked all pursuit on the part of the rebels. A short time after this I was ordered to move to the right and cover the short and direct road to our intrenchments. This I did, forming my whole command, now consisting of thirteen regiments, in two lines, so as to cover the road effectually. In the afternoon four regiments of my first line were advanced in echelon to feel the enemy and try to regain our original position, and get off our wounded. The skirmishers were well advanced, but were stopped on this side of my breast-works by a large force of rebels in line of battle. After removing all the wounded we could find these regiments fell back to the position they had left. Toward evening the army started for home, my command bringing up the rear and suffering not the least molestation from the enemy. We reached camp about 9 o'clock.

I saw a great deal of good conduct on part of officers and men during these operations. Major Converse, of the Eleventh Connecti-

cut Volunteers, an inspector-general on my staff, and Lieuts. E. E. Graves and H. B. Fitch, my aides, particularly distinguished themselves; also Lieutenant-Colonel Boynton, Eighth Maine Volunteers. He was commanding his regiment, although severely wounded, when I ordered him to relinquish his command. Colonel Drake and his command rendered me the most important service.

My aggregate loss in killed, wounded, and missing was as already specified in previous detailed reports, being 1,334.

The following is an extract from General Wistar's official report:

Capt. Edwin E. Bedee and Second Lieut. James W. Saunders, both of Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers, with some men of same regiment, for some time loaded and fired one gun (abandoned) of Battery F, First Rhode Island Artillery. They report one of the officers of that battery as lying concealed in a ditch during the time. The same officers limbered up a 20-pounder Parrott gun, one of Ashby's battery, deserted by its gunners, and moved it by hand some distance to the rear on the turnpike, where they turned it over to some men of the battery with instructions to take it to the rear, which was neglected and the piece abandoned, owing, as they alleged, to the want of horses. The guns lost were abandoned without spiking. Captain Barker, commanding Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers, had previously thrown forward sharpshooters, who dispersed and drove away the enemy's sharpshooters who attacked these guns.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

Lieut. Col. N. BOWEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Eighteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
U. S. ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
In the Field, May 27, 1864.

COLONEL: In addition to my previous report of the action on the 16th instant, I desire to submit the following, viz:

While I was posting the regiments under Colonel Drake on the road on the right, which had been uncovered by the crushing of Heckman's brigade, the officer in charge of the skirmishers on our right flank reported the enemy moving to our rear and parallel to the road. Several persons were struck at the same time by shots fired from that direction. I at once reported to the major-general commanding the corps this movement of the enemy, and shortly afterward I received the order to fall back on the same line with General Brooks, who had retired.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General and Chief Engineer.

Lieut. Col. N. BOWEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Eighteenth Army Corps.

No. 62.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Charles A. Heckman, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 6–7.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that pursuant to orders from headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps, I marched with my brigade,

composed of the Ninth New Jersey, Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth, and Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Regiments, on a reconnaissance to Port Walthall Junction, on the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. Left camp at 4 p. m., and, after passing the pickets of this camp, skirmishers and flankers were deployed, and the column proceeded with great caution. Met with no opposition (save a few pickets) until my arrival at Barnes' plantation, where we met the enemy in force. Their skirmishers were thrown forward and their line of battle was formed behind a fence on the edge of the woods. Their forces could be distinctly seen moving to my right and left. After making a proper disposition of my force to prevent a flank movement, I moved forward; shots were exchanged between skirmishers, when a tremendous volley was poured into us from behind the fence and from the woods, which was replied to vigorously by us with artillery and infantry. Upon being assured that at least two brigades of the enemy were opposing me in front, and as a general engagement was not desired, I engaged them for a time and retired in perfect order, the enemy keeping up a heavy fire, officers and men being perfectly cool and obeying every order with as much precision as if at dress parade. Never did troops behave more nobly. I regret to state that owing to the limited number of stretchers allowed my command, in retiring I was compelled to leave a portion of my killed on the field to save the wounded. No ambulances were sent with my command, and not until after I had sent for them from the field did I have the transportation for the wounded—meeting the ambulances on the road.

Our loss was as follows:

Regiments.	Enlisted men.	
	Killed.	Wounded.
9th New Jersey Volunteers	4	30
25th Massachusetts Volunteers	3	14
27th Massachusetts Volunteers	1	16
Total	8	60

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. HECKMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. N. BOWEN,
Asst. Adjt. Genl, Eighteenth Army Corps.

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HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 7, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders, headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps, I started from camp with my brigade at 9.30 a. m., and proceeded in the direction of Port Walthall Junction, for the purpose of acting in conjunction with a force moving toward the same point on another route. After passing our pickets, skirmishers and flankers were deployed as on the previous day, and we advanced without opposition to the ground which I occupied on the 6th; found the enemy occupying their old position. After making a proper dispo-

sition of my force, and while waiting for information from General Brooks, the enemy opened upon us with artillery, having perfect range of the Ninth New Jersey Regiment. By moving them slightly to the right the enemy lost the range. I placed my artillery in position, and after firing a few rounds succeeded in blowing up their caisson, which silenced them entirely. Upon receiving a message from General Brooks I made arrangements to attack the enemy's right at the same time that General Brooks attacked them in front, but finding the enemy were in too large force on my left to admit of my advancing, and as it was very important to hold the position I occupied, and being within easy range of the enemy, I deemed it most prudent to hold my position, and at the same time engage them with my artillery, which I did with telling effect. Upon learning that General Brooks had accomplished his object and was retiring, I continued firing, and in compliance with orders made my arrangements to return to camp. Upon learning that Captain West and party, who had undertaken an expedition, had not returned, I sent out parties for them and held my position until their return, when we returned to camp, arriving at 7.30 p. m. The sun being oppressively warm my men suffered very much, having nearly 100 cases of sunstroke. Our loss during the action was as follows: One officer of Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, wounded; 1 officer of Twenty-seventh Massachusetts, wounded; 1 enlisted man of Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, killed; 9 enlisted men of Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, wounded; 4 enlisted men of Twenty-seventh Massachusetts, wounded.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

C. A. HECKMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. N. BOWEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Eighteenth Army Corps.

No. 63.

Report of Col. Josiah Pickett, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 9–10.

HDQRS. 25TH MASSACHUSETTS VET. VOL. INFTY.,
In the Field, May 18, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In accordance with orders from brigade headquarters the Twenty-fifth Regiment left camp on the 9th instant at 5.30 a. m., moved in the direction of Petersburg without serious opposition till 4 p. m., and until within about 5 miles from Petersburg; there line of battle was formed, and I moved up, supported by the Twenty-third Massachusetts Regiment, and with the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts on my right, the enemy using their artillery and constantly shelling us. I had advanced about a mile when the enemy was met in force; I opened fire and became closely engaged; the enemy finding our fire very severe, charged our line in heavy force. I reserved my fire until the last moment, and then opened upon them, firing right oblique. It was impossible for men to stand against such fire, and they broke and fled, leaving their dead and wounded upon the field. Immediately their artillery opened a fierce and destruc-

tive fire; they had been punished so severely that they did not attempt again to force our lines. Pickets were thrown to the front, and I sheltered my men in the woods, and prepared to bivouac for the night. We were so near the enemy's lines we could not build fires, and though expecting an attack during the night, were not disturbed by any movements in our front. On the 10th instant, about 11 a. m., the men being very much exhausted by the excessive heat, the severe fighting of the previous day, and being out of rations, we were relieved and marched to the rear to obtain a little rest, and that the men might have an opportunity to make coffee, but instead of so doing we continued our march to camp, reaching it about 4 p. m. My loss on the 9th amounted to 1 commissioned officer and 11 enlisted men killed; 3 commissioned officers and 47 enlisted men wounded. First Lieutenant Upton, in command of Company I, was killed. In the loss of this officer the regiment and service has lost one whose place it will be difficult to fill; young, brave, and patriotic, he was among the first to offer his services to his country, entering into all the trials and hardships of a soldier's life with cheerfulness of disposition and buoyancy of spirits which won for him the respect and confidence of his superior officers; prompt in the performance of and attentive to all his duties, kind and affectionate to all under his command, he won the respect and love of all who knew him. He met a soldier's death, dying at the head of his command as victory crowned our efforts. I inclose a list of killed and wounded with names, nature of wounds, &c.*

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. PICKETT,
Colonel Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Vet. Vol. Infty.

Capt. W. H. ABEL,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Div., 18th Army Corps.

No. 64.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Orson Moulton, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 6–16.

HDQRS. 25TH MASSACHUSETTS VET. VOL. INFTY.,
In the Field, May 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in compliance with orders from brigade headquarters, the Twenty-fifth Regiment left camp on the afternoon of May 6, at about 3 p. m. Marching rapidly the distance of about 4 miles in the direction of the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, the enemy were discovered in force, posted in front of said road and on the left of the Walthall branch road. Forming in line of battle and marching into an open field on the left of the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts, we advanced a short distance to the front, then formed double column at half distance, passed the Twenty-seventh, and deployed into line of battle. While in this position the enemy opened a severe fire upon us. At this juncture I broke my three right companies to the rear into column to allow the Ninth New Jersey Volunteers to pass between my command and the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts. I had fired but a

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 16.

couple of rounds per man when this movement took place, and on its completion I was compelled to cease firing. Shortly after I received orders to move the right wing to the rear and support the artillery, of which we had one section. The left soon joined the right, and I received orders to move to the rear. Moving to the rear cross-roads just in rear of the field upon which the action occurred, I formed line of battle and thus remained till the ambulances with the wounded had passed. I then moved in the direction of camp, reaching there about 10 p. m.

My loss during the engagement was 3 killed and 14 wounded, 2 of the latter mortally. I was compelled to leave my dead upon the field.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. MOULTON,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. W. H. ABEL,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Heckman's Brigade.

HDQRS. 35TH MASSACHUSETTS VET. VOL. INFTY.,

In the Field, May 19, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In accordance with orders from brigade headquarters I left camp with my regiment on the morning of the 12th instant at 5.30 o'clock. Moving in the direction of the Richmond turnpike about 3 miles, the brigade formed line of battle in a belt of timber and facing a large field. Remaining in this position about one-half an hour we moved on the Richmond turnpike. Getting on to that road and marching in a southerly direction a short distance, brigade line was formed behind a section of Belger's battery, which was engaged with the enemy. Our next position was in line in an open field a short distance north of Proctor's Creek; toward night moved across the field into the woods and remained there in line all night, throwing out one company on picket. 13th instant moved in a southerly direction upon the Richmond road, crossed Proctor's Creek, and went into position in the woods about a mile from the enemy's intrenchments near Drewry's Bluff, throwing out pickets. On the 14th instant, soon after daylight, moved up to the front of the enemy's works and formed line in the woods; had one company on the skirmish line; there was no general engagement this day, though the skirmish line was closely and constantly engaged. On the 15th threw up log breast-works immediately in front of our position; had two companies on the skirmish line this day. After dark was relieved in this position by the Twenty-first Connecticut, and moved my regiment to the right a short distance. During the night my men were aroused and in line five times, the enemy being almost constantly demonstrating along the front of our lines. On the morning of the 16th instant, about 5 o'clock, the enemy in force moved down upon my front heavily supported by artillery, and under cover of a dense fog made a furious attack. I reserved my fire until they were within close range, then delivered it with telling effect, causing their colors to drop three successive times and partially checking their advance. While being thus engaged in the front word was brought to me that our right had been turned, that the Ninth New Jersey, Twenty-seventh, and Twenty-third Massachusetts had been overpowered by

the enemy and retired, also that the regiment on my left had given way and that the rebels in heavy force were coming in on my right and had already gained my rear. I immediately faced the regiment by the rear rank, delivered what few remaining rounds of ammunition there were left, then ordered a charge, which temporarily checked them, but owing to their superior numbers did not succeed in breaking their lines; it however gave me an opportunity to face my regiment by the right flank and marched them to the rear. I was compelled to leave my dead and all my wounded who could not help themselves off on the field. General Heckman and Colonel Lee having been taken prisoners, Colonel Pickett took command of the brigade. I was by him ordered to form my men in line a short distance in rear of the battle-field, supporting a battery; shortly afterward moved to the right and rear, holding the approaches to the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike. About 4 p. m. was ordered to return to camp, which was reached at 9 o'clock. In concluding this report, I have to mention in terms of highest praise the conduct of both officers and men during the entire time of their absence from camp. All the hardships incident to four days and nights under a drenching rain, without shelter of any kind, so close to the enemy's lines that but once could fires be built, almost constantly under fire and some part of the regiment on picket or skirmishing all the time, were borne without a murmur or complaint; and their behavior on the morning of the 16th, when out-flanked and surrounded by the overwhelming forces of the enemy, they kept up a deadly fire upon them until ammunition was expended; then finding all support gone, their desperate but unsuccessful charge in the vain hope to break the rebel lines, this failing, still maintaining their line and awaiting orders, their marching under a galling fire without confusion by the flank to the rear, merits and receives my utmost commendation. I would state also that Colonel Pickett, though sick and unable to perform duty, was present with the regiment on the morning of the 16th instant and remained until the close of the engagment. I inclose list of killed, wounded, and missing.*

O. MOULTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Capt. W. H. ABEL,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brig., Second Div., 18th A. C.

No. 65.

Report of Lieut. William Daley, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 14-15.

CAMP TWENTY-FIFTH REGT. MASSACHUSETTS VOLS.,
Cobb's Hill, Va., May 24, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Having been called on for a report while on duty on the night of the 14th instant, I beg respectfully to state that about 7 p. m. I relieved Company B, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, doing picket duty near Drewry's Bluff. There were no shots exchanged after my command had been posted till between 1.30 and 2 a. m., when the enemy opened a sharp fire, which was replied to

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 16.

and continued for more than half an hour. Firing ceased until near 4 a. m.; then a brisk fire was opened, which was kept up to 6 a. m., when I was relieved by Lieutenant O'Neill, of this regiment.

Captain, I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. DALEY,
First Lieut., Comdg. Co. K, Twenty-Fifth Regt. Mass. Vols.

Capt. W. H. ABEL,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brigade, Second Division.

No. 66.

Report of Lieut. James O'Neill, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 15–16.

CAMP 25TH REGT. MASSACHUSETTS INFTY. VOLS.,
Cobb's Hill, Va., May 24, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report as one of the officers in command of the pickets in front of Heckman's brigade on the night of the 15th and morning of the 16th of May, near Drewry's Bluff:

I posted the picket, under the direction of Captain Abel, on the brow of a hill in an open field in front of the brigade line in rifle-pits 20 paces apart, which were dug by my pickets that night, as the old line of pits occupied by our men before were so low under the brow that they were comparatively useless. When I reached the right of our brigade line I ascertained that we had a post in an old barn to the right and front of our line some 80 rods. I took a sergeant and corporal and went to the barn, but could find no one there. On leaving the barn I received a volley from the enemy, not more than 20 paces from me. At the same time the enemy's cavalry charged on a house on our picket-line occupied by a company of the Ninth New Jersey. This caused a general alarm all along the whole picket-line. This was about 10 p. m. After that, scattering shots occasionally were exchanged until about 3.30 a. m. of the 16th, when there was a general assault all along the picket-lines.

Your obedient servant,

JAMES O'NEILL,
Second Lieut., Co. E, Twenty-fifth Mass. Vet. Vol. Infty.

Capt. W. H. ABEL,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brig., Second Division.

No. 67.

Report of Capt. Henry C. Dwight, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 15–16.

CAMP TWENTY-SEVENTH MASSACHUSETTS VOLS.,
Cobb's Hill, Va., May 23, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the duty performed by the companies (A and B) of the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers as pickets during the night of the 14th instant:

Companies A and B were detailed on picket guard Saturday p. m., at 5 o'clock, and reported to Lieut. Col. W. G. Bartholomew,

Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding picket guard, at 7 o'clock, on the road in front of line of battle of brigade, and directly in front of Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers. Company B was deployed as skirmishers, marching directly to the front, nearly to the position occupied by our skirmishers during the day. They then were assembled, 3 men on each picket post. They remained during the night without firing or being fired upon until daylight, Sunday a. m., when they were deployed, and fired until relieved by a company of Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers. The right of this line of pickets was nearly opposite the center of Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers. This company was commanded by Second Lieut. Justus Lyman, who remained with pickets during the night. Company A was the reserve (commanded by myself); was posted nearly opposite the left of Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers and a few rods in rear of picket-line of Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers. This line of pickets was fired upon by the enemy at about 12 o'clock, when I moved my company a short distance to the rear, occupying ground more favorable for the pickets to rally upon the reserve, and the pickets having retreated a short distance the reserve would be too near the pickets. The firing was light and of short duration. At intervals during the night a few shots were exchanged.

At daylight Sunday a. m. my company was ordered to fall back to the road and remain there as reserve, which it did until about 7 a. m., when it was relieved and rejoined the regiment.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY C. DWIGHT,
Captain Co. A, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Vols.

Capt. W. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 68.

Report of Capt. Peter S. Bailey, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Infantry, of operations May 15-16.

CAMP TWENTY-SEVENTH MASSACHUSETTS VOLS.,
Cobb's Hill, Va., May 23, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the duty performed by Company D, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, as pickets during the night of the 15th instant:

Company D was detailed as picket Sunday p. m., between 10 and 11 o'clock, and ordered to report to Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, Ninth New Jersey Volunteers. I did not find Colonel Stewart at the place designated; reported to you and was sent to the picket-line to Lieutenant O'Neill, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, who gave me instructions as received from Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart to run my line from the right of the Twenty-third diagonally to a point of woods, connecting there with Eighth Maine, who continued the line nearly to the James River. While posting my men we were fired into by the pickets of the Eighth Maine, wounding 3 men. While trying to explain to them we were friends, &c., received a volley from a company of rebel infantry, who deployed

from the woods in front, upon which I retired with my command to the edge of the woods, where I established my posts. Having received orders about 12 p. m. to advance my line, I sent out 6 men at a time, who dug rifle-pits and occupied them. They were nearly all completed, when we were charged upon by rebel cavalry and forced back to the woods, the rebels following and cutting us off from our regiment and brigade. There was little or no firing on my right, the Eighth Maine firing only two shots. Neither did they report to me as seeing anything unusual. There were several volleys fired by the Ninth New Jersey, stationed at a house in front of the center of the picket-line; also some on the left. I did not see or hear anything that would lead me to suppose the rebels were massing troops in front.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. S. BAILEY,

Captain, Twenty-seventh Mass. Vols., Comdg. Co. D.

Capt. W. H. ABEL,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 69.

Report of Lieut. Col. James Stewart, jr., Ninth New Jersey Infantry, of operations May 15-16.

CHESAPEAKE HOSPITAL, *May* 26, 1864.

CAPTAIN: As general officer of the night for May 15, I have the honor to submit the following report:

At early twilight I had two companies each to report to me from the following regiments: Ninety-eighth New York, Eighth Maine, and Twenty-first Connecticut. With these I relieved the line of skirmishers in front of the position held by Heckman's brigade during the day. I was then furnished with four companies from Heckman's brigade, three of which were distributed in the rifle-pits in front of that brigade and connecting with my first line of pickets on the left. Most of the rifle-pits were dug by my men early that night by order of General Heckman. I also had one company of about 50 men, under Captain Lawrence, of the Ninth New Jersey, posted at a house situated about 400 yards in front of the Ninth New Jersey, which was on the right of the brigade. The picket-line extended from the house to the right, and, I believe, to the James River, and was held by one company of the Eighth Maine and some colored cavalry. These pickets were not under my directions, but I informed myself as to their position, &c. Everything remained quiet until about 10 p. m., when the enemy's cavalry charged upon the post held by Captain Lawrence, but that officer with his command gave them an effective volley, which sent them back in confusion. As soon as I heard the firing, I visited the house and learned the particulars from Captain Lawrence. About this time it was becoming quite foggy, but the captain informed me that he could see them quite plainly, and judged their force to be fully 100. I then placed the captain with his men in the most advantageous position to repel an attack, and immediately reported the circumstance to General Heckman. Soon afterward I was furnished with a com-

pany of colored cavalry, which I posted on the extreme right, the only position that they could take, as the rifle-pits which we had dug in front of the brigade would have prevented their advance. The enemy gave us but little peace during the night, feeling of our lines frequently, and causing three general alarms. The last was made about 3 a. m. of the 16th, and was caused, the pickets said, by squads of rebels (2 or 3) creeping up to our lines at several points. During this alarm I visited the whole line again, cautioning the men not to fire at supposed objects, but to be sure it was an enemy before they fired. I had but just reached my regiment when the whole picket-line opened fire. I at once started for the front and met my pickets coming in, who reported that the enemy were advancing in force. The whistling of balls soon convinced me of the truth of what they said. I at once joined my regiment, which was already in line and awaiting the onset of the enemy.

I have nothing further to report, as about this time my tour of duty terminated very abruptly so far as the pickets were concerned. I am gratified to add, however, that my guards all returned to their regiments, except those killed or very severely wounded. None of the others were captured by the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. STEWART, JR.,
Lieut. Col. Ninth New Jersey Volunteers.

Capt. W. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 70.

Report of Col. Griffin A. Stedman, jr., Eleventh Connecticut Infantry, Second Brigade, of operations May 12–16.

HDQRS. ELEVENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLS.,
May 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Eleventh Regiment Connecticut Volunteers marched with Wistar's brigade on the morning of Thursday, May 12, and accompanied the brigade during the movement toward Drewry's Bluff. During the advance skirmishers were at times thrown out, relieving those of other regiments.

On the morning of Monday, May 16, they occupied their position in the brigade line when the enemy attacked General Heckman's right. No shot was fired by the regiment until the enemy charged in line of battle their immediate front, when, opening fire, the advance of the rebels was checked, and their line, after about an hour, was driven back. At this time, and within a few moments after the regiment ceased firing, an order reached me from General Wistar to fall back, facing my regiment about. I reluctantly obeyed, and marched through thick woods to a road a quarter of a mile to the rear. At this point I was was ordered to advance and reoccupy the breast-works. Moving without delay, the regiment returned, and, under a heavy fire from the rebel line which occupied the fortifications, took its old position. No other regiment of the brigade was there, nor could any Union troops be seen along the

whole line to the right or left. A rebel battery enfiladed the regiment from the left, and after twenty minutes I saw a movement on the part of the rebels indicating an intention to charge in front, and saw a column filing into the road in the position before occupied by the Second New Hampshire Volunteers, and within 30 yards of my right flank. Finding myself unsupported, and in danger of annihilation or capture, I faced the regiment about and marched to the rear, constantly obliquing to the right to avoid the enemy, who were following the movement with yells. Debouching upon the open field, the regiment retook its position in the brigade, and continued with it during the day, reaching camp between 8 and 9 p. m.

I respectfully ask the attention of the brigadier-general commanding to the fact that the regiment, more than two-thirds of whom were recruits, marched faced to the rear rank to retreat twice through a wide section of dense woods and thicket under a very heavy fire, and that alone and unsupported they reoccupied the old position under the fire of a large body of the enemy behind earthworks, and accomplished all without losing their formation or becoming confused. During the second engagement the flag-staff was broken. The regiment lost throughout the day 14 killed, 54 wounded, and 112 missing, most of whom are supposed to have been killed or wounded during the second engagement, and left upon the field. Those only are reported as killed or wounded in regard to whom a certainty exists. Two officers were wounded, 1 of whom is a prisoner; 1 other is missing, supposed to be wounded and a prisoner.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GRIFFIN A. STEDMAN, JR.,
Colonel, Comdg. Eleventh Connecticut Volunteers.

Capt. S. R. REYNOLDS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 71.

Report of Capt. George E. Ashby, Battery E, Third New York Light Artillery, of operations May 12–16.

HDQRS. BATTERY E, THIRD NEW YORK ARTILLERY,
In the Field, Va., May 25, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken in the advance of the army on the 12th May, 1864, by the battery under my command, which constituted the Reserve Artillery of the Eighteenth Corps:

Left camp at Cobb's Hill, Va., May 12, 1864, at daybreak and marched to the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike. After a halt of an hour, the battery was ordered back within the line to camp until further orders. Next morning (13th May) ordered up to the front, which reached about noon. The battery was placed in position in front of the Half-Way House, and on the right of the pike. Afterward sent the section of Lieutenant Fuller to take position in the road. This having been done, fire was opened from both sec-

tions at 3 p. m. upon a work which the enemy had thrown up a mile distant and on the road. They replied with two 12-pounders, and knowing the ground, had good range upon the battery, but did little damage. After an hour's firing succeeded in silencing their guns, and at dark ceased firing. Next morning about 9 o'clock the battery was ordered to a position near the line of works which the enemy had left during the night, and opened fire on an earth-work which was about 1,000 yards distant. The enemy replied with a heavy fire of artillery and musketry. After firing an hour or more, the guns were ordered to be moved up under the breast-work. The enemy opened a field battery from the road directly in front of our position. With the aid of Battery D, First U. S. Artillery, they were soon compelled to retire with these guns, and the guns of the fort were also silenced. I kept up a slow fire during the afternoon, and the enemy only replied with an occasional shot. During the day several men and horses were wounded. At dark received orders to retire for the night.

On Sunday, 15th, resumed my position at daybreak. The battery lay all the day under a galling fire of musketry without firing a shot. Several horses were killed and wounded. At night received orders to retire at dark and resume my position before daybreak on Monday morning.

Shortly after resuming my position on Monday morning, 16th, the enemy opened upon me with a heavy fire of artillery. I immediately replied with all my guns. Under cover of this fire and the heavy fog, a large force of the enemy advanced up the road and charged on the battery. At the same time their artillery ceased firing, and changing the direction of my pieces, I ordered them to be charged with canister, which was poured into the column of the enemy. As they advanced the first charge was repulsed, but they only retired behind the line of breast-works, from which they poured continuous volleys of musketry. The fog and smoke was so dense that they could not be seen, and their exact position was doubtful. Very soon they again charged. As long as the canister held out I used it, and when it gave out ordered percussion shell to be used. At this time I was struck in the head by part of a case-shot, and carried to the rear. The chiefs of sections, Lieutenants Fuller and Mowers, used their guns until the enemy were in their midst and on the left flank of the battery. They then ordered them to be limbered to move off the ground; only one was saved. The horses belonging to the others were shot down as they were driven up, the guns being deeply mired and the enemy close upon them. The men were ordered to save themselves, which most did by retiring through the swamp or up the road in a shower of bullets. Lieutenant Fuller was shot through the arm and leg, but succeeded in escaping. I would remark that a verbal order from the commanding general for the battery to fall back, instead of being carried to the guns was carried by the orderly to the caissons, which were parked at the Half-Way House, and thus the opportunity for retiring safely was lost.

I cannot forbear to express my satisfaction at the steadiness, determination, and courage with which the men of my command stood to their guns until ordered to retire. My thanks are due to Lieutenants Fuller and Mowers, commanding sections, for the efficient manner in which they handled their sections. I have to report a loss in killed, wounded, and missing of 2 commissioned officers and

14 enlisted men. Forty-four horses were killed and wounded. Three guns and two limbers were lost. My command being disabled, was ordered within the line of intrenchments.

I report the following expenditure of ammunition during the three days, viz:

	Rounds.
Solid shot	53
Shell:	
Time fuse	229
Percussion fuse	29
Case-shot	56
Canister	52
Total	419

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. E. ASHBY,
Captain Battery E, Third New York Artillery.

Lieut. Col. N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 72.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Edward W. Hinks, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division, of operations May 5–18.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
City Point, Va., May 13, 1864.

GENERAL: In obedience to your order of this date, which was received at City Point during my absence to the front superintending the construction of works opposite Point of Rocks, I have the honor to submit the following brief report of my operations since landing at City Point on the 5th of May, instant:

As you are already aware, the First and Twenty-second Regiments U. S. Colored Troops, with two sections of Choate's battery, were landed at Wilson's Wharf; the Tenth and Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, with two sections of Howell's battery, were landed at Fort Powhatan, and Duncan's brigade, with one section of Choate's and one section of Howell's battery, were landed at City Point, all on the 5th instant, a member of my staff having been left at Wilson's Wharf to lay out and superintend the construction of proper earth-works. Immediately upon landing at City Point earth-works were commenced, the construction of which has since been pushed with all our available force, and is now progressing well. Four heavy guns, viz, one 30-pounder, two 20-pounder Parrotts, and one 8-inch howitzer, which were received on Sunday, the 8th, have since been mounted.

On Sunday evening, 8th instant, Captain Angel's battery of six 3-inch ordnance guns reported for duty, and the Thirty-seventh Regiment U. S. Colored Troops was withdrawn from Fort Powhatan and placed in the works at City Point; also Captain Dollard, Company D, Second U. S. Colored Cavalry, reported for duty. On Monday, 9th instant, with 1,800 infantry, one battery, and the company of cavalry, I made a reconnaissance toward Petersburg, upon

the river road to Spring Hill, and returned to the middle road, so-called, and pushed up to within about 4 miles of Petersburg, drawing the fire of the enemy's batteries; after which I returned to City Point, arriving at 11 o'clock at night.

On Tuesday, 10th instant, went personally to Fort Powhatan and directed the construction of earth-works. Learned that Clingman's brigade, three regiments of infantry, and a battery of six guns came down from Petersburg to within 2 miles of the works at City Point, and returned by the river road. Two companies of Thirteenth New York Heavy Artillery, under command of Captain Pendrell, and a detachment of 93 men of the Third Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, under command of Captain von Schilling, reported for duty at City Point.

Thursday, 12th instant, proceeded with two regiments of Duncan's brigade, one section of Choate's battery, and one section of Angel's battery, to a point in the bight of the Appomattox River, nearly opposite the Point of Rocks, and directed the construction of a work, which is now progressing favorably, in charge of Colonel Duncan. The work when finished will consist of two lunettes connected by an infantry parapet, or curtain, of about 150 yards in length, with flanks of like parapets running toward the river. The position is a very strong one, and with the assistance of gun-boats on the flanks may be held by the force now there against greatly superior numbers. Communication with the river is established directly to the rear of the works, and the garrison may be easily increased by throwing troops across the river.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDW. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina, in the Field.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
City Point, Va., May 22, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of my operations since May 13, 1864:

Regular daily communication by water is now established between all the points occupied by my division. The works in the bight of the river opposite Point of Rocks have nearly reached completion, and the position is one of considerable strength. Colonel Stafford has been relieved of the command at Fort Powhatan, and ordered with his regiment to Wilson's Wharf. Colonel Kiddoo, commanding Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops, has been stationed at Fort Powhatan. A detachment of the Third Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, commanded by Capt. F. von Schilling, has been stationed at Fort Powhatan. I have now mounted at Fort Powhatan three 20-pounder Parrotts and one 4½-inch siege gun, and one additional gun, 32-pounder Rodman, mounted on my works at City Point. On the 16th instant a foraging party of 20 men, under the command of Lieutenant Cunningham, of the Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, sent out without orders from these headquarters, were attacked by a largely superior force, with the loss of 1 killed, 4 wounded, and 2 captured. An investigation of the whole

matter by a military commission is now in progress. The questionable behavior of Lieutenant Cunningham, Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, in this affair stands in strange contrast with the soldierly behavior of Sergeant Frazier, Fifth U. S. Colored Troops.

On the morning of the 18th instant Colonel Duncan's command at Spring Hill was attacked by the enemy with a force consisting of about 600 cavalry, two companies of infantry, and two 12-pounder guns. After a brisk cannonade of thirty minutes' duration the enemy were compelled to retire, apparently with considerable loss.

Our loss was 2 slightly wounded.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDW. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Va. and N. C., in the Field.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
City Point, Va., May 22, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that between 5 and 6 o'clock yesterday p. m I received a dispatch in the following words:

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864.

Capt. SOLON A. CARTER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Fort Powhatan is attacked, and General Wild has gone thither with one regiment. He desired me to inform you of the fact by the first opportunity, and requests General Hinks to send assistance.

Your obedient servant,

H. W. ALLEN,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

In response to the call for assistance I immediately proceeded with the Fifth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops to Fort Powhatan, where I found everything quiet, a demonstration merely of the enemy's cavalry having been made against the place about 12 m., and his force having dispersed by a few well-directed shots from our guns. After inspecting the lines of our troops I returned to City Point, arriving here at 1 a. m. The dispatch signed by Lieutenant Allen was not in obedience to any demand for assistance from Colonel Kiddoo, who is well prepared for any attack of the enemy, and equal to any emergency that is likely to occur at that point. A copy of Colonel Kiddoo's report of the affair will be forwarded when received.

I deem it necessary to send one squadron of cavalry to Colonel Kiddoo, and I respectfully urge that at least one entire regiment of the colored cavalry be returned to my division at once.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDW. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina.

No. 73.

Report of Col. Joseph B. Kiddoo, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, First Brigade, of operations May 21.

HDQRS. TWENTY-SECOND U. S. COLORED TROOPS,
Fort Pocahontas, Va., May 22, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the enemy's cavalry, about 100 strong, made a demonstration upon my pickets yesterday at noon. The pickets held them in check until the infantry was formed and the artillerymen got to their guns, both at the time being at work on the trenches. A few shots from Captain Howell's battery dispersed the enemy. I signaled to General Wild that the enemy had appeared on my picket-line in small force, but had withdrawn. "All quiet." He returned a message to the effect that if I needed help to send him word. At this time the enemy reappeared on my right in about the same or larger force, when I sent to General Wild for a regiment of infantry, fearing that they were the advance guard of a larger force. By this time the gun-boats, by previously agreed upon signals, had got into position and shelled the woods on our right and left.

At this time a section of Captain Howell's battery passed down the river from City Point on its way to Wilson's Wharf. I hailed the boat and took the responsibility of ordering the section ashore to my assistance on the assurance that I had received from General Wild that he would give me any assistance needed. Before General Wild arrived with the First U. S. Colored Troops the enemy had again disappeared. General Wild rode the line with me, and, concluding that it was only a reconnoitering party, left about 5 p. m. with the First U. S. Colored Troops and the section of Captain Howell's battery, which I had taken the responsibility to stop. I had only two men wounded. The pickets behaved most creditably, one man standing at his post, and, after firing and loading three times, fenced with a rebel officer till he disabled the officer, and received a stroke across the face with a saber.

I very respectfully renew my application for a small detachment of cavalry to do vedette duty, that we may have a more timely alarm on the approach of an enemy; also that the section of Captain Howell's battery ordered away from here be allowed to remain for the present; also that, if consistent with the safety of other posts, I be furnished with more infantry to assist in doing the fatigue duty necessary to make this position secure. It will be remembered by the general commanding that while I may have infantry enough to do the fatigue or man my front line and do the picket duty, yet I have not enough for both.

I take pleasure in reporting that the gun-boats Atlanta and Dawn co-operate with me most cordially and faithfully in everything that pertains to the safety of the post.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. KIDDOO,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. SOLON A. CARTER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 74.

Report of Col. Samuel A. Duncan, Fourth U. S. Colored Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 18.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
City Point, Va., May 19, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the enemy made a demonstration against our works at this point yesterday morning at 11 o'clock. Issuing suddenly and in force from the woods on the Petersburg road, he commenced a vigorous shelling of the reserve of our grand guard; at the same time throwing two squadrons of cavalry into line near his two pieces of artillery, and sending a few skirmishers down along the woods in our front, connecting with a body of 30 or 40 horsemen that appeared upon our left near the house of Mr. Livesay. Our picket-line was immediately disposed as skirmishers. A few well-directed shots from the battery of the enemy caused our right to fall back, which necessitated the retirement of the whole line. They fell back in excellent order, and firing deliberately, apparently with some effect. Had the picket-line maintained its position more obstinately, it is possible that the enemy, whose object was to reconnoiter our position, would have been unable to reach the crest nearest our works, and would have been obliged to retire, content with such view only as could be obtained from the woods nearly a mile in front. As it was, he followed up our retiring line, and planted his howitzers on the crest near Gatlin's house, opening on our works. As soon as our line of skirmishers was sufficiently retired, three of our guns replied. The gun-boats also came to our assistance promptly, and a brisk cannonading ensued for a half hour, at the expiration of which time the enemy retired. As his force was mainly cavalry, it was impracticable to pursue him.

Captain Dollard went out far enough to get data from the inhabitants by which to estimate the force. His estimate is the most reliable that I have. The enemy is believed to have had about 600 mounted men, a small force of infantry, one or two companies, and two 12-pounder howitzers.

Most of our fire was well directed. Three or four saddles were emptied by our skirmishers, and some of our shells exploded in the immediate vicinity of the enemy's battery, causing him to move off to the rear instantly. A shell from the gun-boats burst directly over the company of rebels near Livesay's, dispersing them at once.

At about 6 p. m. a small force was seen by our vedettes to return along the Petersburg road as far as Mills' house, and then turn off into the woods, bringing with them three ambulances and one howitzer. The inhabitants this morning stated that this was for the purpose of removing their wounded, whom they had concealed in the woods.

It is hardly possible, in fact, that the enemy escaped without considerable damage, subjected as he was to a cross-fire from the gun-boats, in addition to the direct fire from our works, at a range of 1,000 yards.

Two of our men only are wounded, one very slightly in the face, the other more seriously in the fore-arm, both by fragments of shells.

We fired 44 shots, 13 shells, and 31 spherical case. The enemy fired 25 or 30, some of which exploded directly over the works, the most fell short.

Much credit is due the gun-boats for the prompt and efficient service which they rendered.

I remain, captain, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. A. DUNCAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. SOLON A. CARTER,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hinks' Division.

No. 75.

Report of Col. Benjamin F. Onderdonk, First New York Mounted Rifles (unattached troops), of operations May 7–19.

HDQRS. FIRST REGT. MOUNTED RIFLES, N. Y. VOLS.,
In the Field, near Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 25, 1864.

COLONEL: Agreeable to instructions from corps headquarters, I have the honor to report the part taken by my regiment in the late engagements:

At daylight on the 7th instant, pursuant to orders received from the major-general commanding, I left camp with eight troops—350 men—and was ordered in the advance toward the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, under Brigadier-General Brooks. Mistook the road, and marched in the direction of Port Walthall Junction; met and captured 7 of the enemy; returned and moved out on correct road; passed through the line of infantry skirmishers, when the advance guard, reporting the enemy in line of battle oblique in thick woods across swamps, from left to right back, threw out skirmishers and opened fire. The enemy replied by volley. I should judge a brigade was in position. My own horse was wounded, 2 of non-commissioned staff killed, and 2 others in troops. Was then ordered out of range, and infantry advanced; moved to the mills to hold the position. On retiring, assisted the wounded men of all arms from the field, and returned to camp as rear guard. On the 9th moved out in the same direction, covering the right flank; moved with advance line of skirmishers through the woods to the railroad, without finding the enemy. Was then ordered in the advance on the turnpike toward Petersburg; met the enemy near Swift Creek in force; skirmished with them until the infantry came up, when the enemy opened with artillery, and my command was ordered under cover.

On the 10th ordered to the right on turnpike toward Richmond to make reconnaissance and find the enemy; found the right generally engaged; was ordered to picket the left front. In the evening returned to camp, covering the rear. On the 12th moved to the front in advance, via Ware Bottom Church; a short distance beyond met the enemy's pickets, at the school-house, and moved by the left to the turnpike, picketing the left and covering that flank. 13th, ordered to report to General Gillmore; moved toward Chester Court-House, covering the left, and moving through the woods was ordered to hold Salem Church with two troops, the balance of my command to extend the line from the left of infantry to Salem Church. 14th, performed same service. 15th, performed same service. On the

16th ordered to retire, by General Gillmore, and leave the wounded; formed the infantry, as they retired, in the rifle-pits to cover the left. Succeeded in recovering all the wounded who were expected to live. Called in my pickets, and covered the rear of the army, holding the railroad until all the infantry stragglers were gathered in, and moved into camp in the rear as usual. 17th, ordered to report to General Gillmore, commanding Tenth Army Corps. Received orders to move on the turnpike to endeavor to capture a wagon train of the enemy. Found the enemy in strong force on the picket-line, and was ordered to retire. Returned to camp at daylight on the morning of the 18th. 19th, ordered on reconnaissance toward Port Walthall Junction; reached the mill beyond the lines, found the bridge torn up and a cheval-de-frise barricading the way; endeavored to reopen it, when the enemy opened fire from a shelter. Deeming it impossible to force the position, I retired.

I would most respectfully name as worthy of honorable mention, Capt. C. S. Masten, Lieuts. James W. Burton and A. Egerton Adams, for gallantry and coolness. Casualties:*

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. ONDERDONK,
Colonel, Commanding First Mounted Rifles.

Lieut. Col. NICOLAS BOWEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Eighteenth Army Corps.

No. 76.

Report of Brig. Gen. August V. Kautz, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of operations May 5-17.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Point of Rocks, Va., June 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my report of the operations of the cavalry under my command during the month of May in cutting the railroad communications south of Richmond, as also the reports of brigade and regimental commanders:

The first expedition started on the morning of the 5th of May in accordance with verbal instructions from the major-general commanding the department, and was directed against the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad. From the failure for two years past of expeditions directed against this road, I reasoned that the Blackwater River was an impassable barrier, and that the expedition would be most likely to succeed by seeking a crossing near its source. The first day's march was made through Suffolk to Andrews' Corners, about 33 miles. From this point the principal crossings were threatened, and no exposure of the design to head the stream was made by camping there. Soon after midnight the march was resumed, passing through Windsor and by Isle of Wight Court-House to Fearnsville, where a demonstration was made at the crossing, whilst the column rested, and then continued on across Cypress Swamp to Birch Island Bridge. We were here enabled to make a crossing, although a small picket force was engaged in taking up the

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 enlisted man killed, 8 wounded, 3 captured, 1 missing.

bridges, and of the three bridges, two were already taken up. Lieutenant Prud'homme, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, was seriously wounded whilst leading the advance to drive off the enemy's pickets. He was sent in an ambulance to Fort Powhatan the same night and reached that place in safety. The command camped at Wakefield, where the Norfolk and Petersburg track was cut; the station house and some freight cars and a small amount of stores destroyed. The distance marched was about 30 miles this day.

On the morning of the 7th, between 2 and 3 o'clock, the march was resumed, passing via Littleton, Peter's Bridge, and leaving Sussex Court-House on the right, by Bolling's Bridge to Stony Grove, on the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad. At Littleton we captured an officer, with a train of three or four wagons of commissary and other stores. Bolling's Bridge was defended by a picket of infantry, and a portion of the bridge was taken up. About 4 o'clock the guard at the railroad bridge, under Major Zeigler, Fifty-ninth Virginia [Holcombe Legion], surrendered, with about 40 men, after some firing and the loss of Lieutenant Mayes and several men killed and wounded. A frame bridge 110 feet long, two wood-sheds, two water-tanks, a large lot of extra bridge timber, three freight-cars loaded with lumber, a culvert, and turn-pits were here destroyed. Sufficient corn and bacon for the command were captured and used, and the three regiments of the command bivouacked here for the night.

Three trains loaded with troops of Beauregard's command passed on to Petersburg about noon, and five trains were due between 5 and 6 o'clock. The Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, under Col. S. P. Spear, I sent down to burn the Nottoway railroad bridge, but did not reach it in time before night set in. The bridge was found to be guarded, and no attempt was made to burn it that night. The distance marched was about 40 miles. At daylight on the 8th the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry was sent to the Eleventh with orders to move on the Nottoway bridge from the south, and Colonel Mix was directed to move on the same from the north side, while I reconnoitered the railroad toward Petersburg with two companies of the First District of Columbia Cavalry. Finding a force defending the Rowanty bridge, after the lapse of two or three hours I withdrew to Bolling's Bridge, and, to my great disappointment, found Colonel Mix had not moved. Deeming it too late to co-operate with Colonel Spear, I recrossed Bolling's Bridge and moved directly on Nottoway bridge, and found that Colonel Spear with his command had devoted the morning to the destruction of Jarratt's Station, where my orders reached him. For a report of the damage done, see Colonel Spear's report.

Nottoway bridge was 210 feet long. I found it defended by a redoubt, and several hundred men under Colonel Tabb, of the Fifty-ninth Virginia. The ground about the bridge was open, and the embankment of the road on our side and the redoubt on the other side formed a strong defense. The enemy occupied both sides of the river. Placing the artillery to command the bridge and redoubt, a portion of the carbineers were dismounted and sent to the railroad track, to move along it and drive the enemy from the embankment. This force united with a portion of Colonel Spear's command, and drove the enemy through the bridge in handsome style, while the artillery opened a cross-fire upon them, and kept up a galling fire upon them until the bridge was in flames, when our forces with-

drew out of range. In twenty minutes the bridge fell into the stream. Colonel Tabb, had he retained all his men in the redoubt, could have inflicted a very severe loss upon us before the bridge could have been burned. I anticipated a much heavier loss than actually occurred. I now found myself hampered by about 130 prisoners and about 30 wounded, among them several officers. A large portion of Beauregard's forces was on the way from Weldon, and it was reasonable to expect difficulties in the direction of Petersburg. The railroad was fairly cut, and my duty successfully performed, I therefore returned, via Allen's Bridge, to the Petersburg and Jerusalem plank road and thence to City Point, burning a culvert on the Petersburg and Norfolk Railroad on the way. I reached City Point on the morning of the 10th, without any serious interruption, with the command in very good condition.

I should not neglect to mention that I effected, through a flag of truce, an exchange of 3 or 4 prisoners of my command that had fallen into the hands of Colonel Tabb, some of them wounded. I could, no doubt, have captured Colonel Tabb's command, but reflecting that the loss of ammunition probably necessary to do it, and the increased number of prisoners and the time lost, might seriously interfere if it did not altogether defeat my return to City Point, I reluctantly left him to guard where the bridge had been.

On the 11th the command crossed the Appomattox at Bermuda Hundred and was occupied in drawing rations and ammunition for an expedition against the Richmond and Danville Road. The night of the 11th it rained hard and materially interfered with this duty, and the command was under the necessity of moving before I could satisfy myself that it was fully equipped.

About 9 a. m. on the 12th the march began, moving out to the Chesterfield Junction. The march was continued on to Chesterfield Court-House; thence in northwesterly direction to Coalfield, which place we reached at about 11 o'clock at night. Here the station-house, wood-sheds, water-tank, some cars loaded with shells, and a good portion of the track were destroyed, after which the command bivouacked, in a heavy rain, some 4 or 5 miles distant on the Buckingham pike running parallel to the railroad. About 9 a. m. on the 13th the command reached Powhatan Station. Here we obtained a good supply of forage and bacon and destroyed the freight-house, station-house, water-tank, and a considerable portion of the track, and about 15 freight-cars. The command then moved upon Mattoax bridge. Here is an iron truss bridge across the Appomattox. The enemy were fortified with artillery on the opposite bank, and completely commanded all approach from our side. Leaving the advance regiment to keep up a front against the bridge and to bring up the rear, the column moved down the river to Goode's Bridge, where we were delayed until dark in the rain, repairing a span of the bridge which had been cut out by some of the country people. The depot was reached about 10 o'clock at night, when the command bivouacked, after taking up the switch on the track. We learned here that the force at the Mattoax bridge had been re-enforced, in the mean time, by three trains loaded with troops. Two of the trains had returned empty. The engine of the third came down to reconnoiter the depot and was captured by running off the track at the switch; the negro fireman came to us, but the engineer and conductor escaped back.

Early on the morning of the 14th Colonel Spear and Major Jacobs, with portions of their commands, were sent up the road to make a demonstration on Flat Creek bridge, while the rest of the command were engaged in destroying the track and buildings. The station-house, water-tank, freight-house, two or three freight-cars, and an engine were destroyed here. Finding that Flat Creek bridge was strongly contested, the column was put in motion toward the south, and we marched to Wellville, on the South Side Railroad. A short distance from Wellville, Colonel Spear was detached with his brigade and ordered to proceed to Wilson's Station to destroy it, which he reports he has successfully accomplished, besides taking up a good portion of the track. After tearing up the track at Wellville and burning the freight-house and an empty car, the whole command proceeded to Blacks and Whites Station, where there was quite a supply of forage and commissary stores, with which the command was supplied. The freight-house, wood-sheds, water-tank, and a train of freight-cars were here destroyed, and quite a portion of the track torn up, after which the command continued south 4 or 5 miles, and bivouacked.

On the morning of the 15th the command continued south, over a muddy road—it having rained hard during the night—to Lawrenceville, which we reached early in the evening. We here captured forage and bacon for the command and a few prisoners, and encamped for the night.

On the 16th we took the road toward Belfield, but all the information going to show that the Hicksford bridge was strongly intrenched and defended with two redoubts, four pieces of artillery, a regiment of infantry, and a battalion of zouaves, besides the home guards, and a great deal of our ammunition having become unserviceable by the great quantity of rain that had fallen, it was deemed advisable to turn toward Jarratt's Station. Here we found the track repaired, a new water-tank just completed, and a train of cars which left just before our arrival. The water-tank was again burned, a few rails were torn up, but nothing more could be done, as the condition of the command rendered our return necessary as soon as possible. A pontoon train near by and some baggage were also destroyed, and the roads and vacated camps showed that quite a large force had passed that way toward Petersburg, and we learned that Beauregard's forces that had been cut off by the first raid had gone by this road. We found a structure sufficient to permit trains to cross over the Nottoway, replacing the bridge we had destroyed on the 8th. It was guarded, and late in the evening, and would have delayed us another day to destroy it. We therefore continued to march to Freeman's, where we frightened away a party, destroying the bridge. We were delayed until near daylight repairing the bridge and then proceeded on to City Point, where we arrived late in the afternoon of the 17th, having met a number of small parties of the enemy on our flanks.

We marched from 30 to 40 miles daily for six days, during which a great deal of rain had fallen, and the roads in some places very heavy. Considering the work done, comparatively few of the horses have failed. We captured about as many horses as we lost on the marches, and brought in besides several hundred mule and a large number of negroes; many more of the latter would have followed if we had had transportation for them.

The fighting qualities of the men I have never seen excelled, and in this respect I can congratulate the whole command without distinction. I have, however, to deplore a disposition to pillage and plunder on the part of some of the men and a want of proper officering on the part of some of the officers to check this tendency. There seems to be a looseness of sentiment (not unusual to cavalry) in this respect in the command that is to be regretted, as it adds no luster to our cause, but rather mars the splendor of their military achievements.

While I cannot mention regimental officers without including all alike for their meritorious conduct on these two expeditions, I should not omit the important services rendered by the officers serving on my staff, Dr. Rivers, chief surgeon; Major Wetherill, acting provost-marshal; Captain Asch, acting assistant adjutant-general; and Lieutenants Allis and Monroe, aides-de-camp.

The following is a summary of the killed, wounded, and missing, on both expeditions, viz:

Troops	Killed	Wounded.	Missing	Total
First Brigade	5	29	23	57
Second Brigade	9	31	4	44
Total	14	60	27	101

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General of Vols., Chief of Cavalry.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
A. A. G., Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina.

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Field report of Kautz's Cavalry Division during May, 1864.

Troops.	Present for duty, equipped					
	Cavalry		Artillery		Total.	
	Officers	Men	Officers	Men	Officers	Men
First Brigade.						
Third New York Cavalry	36	756			36	756
First District of Columbia Cavalry	21	352			21	352
Second Brigade.						
Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry	30	839			30	839
Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry	30	857			30	857
Section 8th New York Battery (two pieces)			1	34	1	34
Total	97	2,804	1	34	98	2,838

The numbers here given will include all of the number present for duty who can be equipped. Only such being considered on special, extra, or daily duty as are permanently detached on duty preventing their being made available.

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

MAY —, 1864.

No. 77.

Report of Col. Simon H. Mix, Third New York Cavalry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 5-10.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIV.,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 29, 1864.

CAPTAIN: As commander of the First Brigade, Kautz's Cavalry Division, on the raid from near Portsmouth to Stony Creek, Nottoway River, &c., Va., I have the honor respectfully to report:

That in obedience to orders from your headquarters I moved from near Getty's Station at daylight on the morning of the 5th of May, instant, with my brigade, composed of the Third New York Cavalry and a detachment of six companies of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, numbering in all 970 men. Passing through Suffolk about noon, I marched my brigade to Andrews' Corners, distant from Getty's Station about 38 miles, which place was reached about 9 p. m., where I halted, rested, and fed men and horses, remaining there until 12 o'clock at midnight.

At 1 a. m. of the morning of the 6th, agreeable to orders, I moved from Andrews' Corners in the direction of Fearnsville, which place was reached during the forenoon. Here a halt was made until 3 p. m., when the march was resumed in the direction of the Suffolk [Norfolk] and Petersburg Railroad at a point known as Wakefield, distant from Andrews' Corners, by the route traveled, about 47 miles, which place was reached, after crossing the Blackwater at Birch Island Bridge, about 9 p. m. I bivouacked my command at Wakefield, remaining there until 2 a. m. of the 7th, when I was ordered to take the right of the division and resume the march. Leaving Wakefield at 2 a. m. of the 7th, I proceeded through Littleton in the direction of the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad. At Littleton, Captain Pierce, Company K, Third New York Cavalry, having command of the advance guard of the column, captured 1 rebel lieutenant and 7 men, with several wagons loaded with commissary stores en route from Bacon's Castle to Petersburg. Reaching Bolling's Bridge, a carriage structure which crosses the Nottoway River near Stony Creek Station, on the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad, about 3 p. m. same day, a force of rebels was found there in position to resist the crossing of the column. Major Jacobs, who was in command of the Third New York Cavalry, and in advance, assisted by Major Hall, commanding First Battalion, same regiment, dislodged the enemy after a sharp skirmish, in which the Third lost Lieut. John Mayes, a valuable officer, killed, and 2 men wounded, both of whom have since died. The railroad station at Stony Creek was seized and held by my command. The bridge across the stream, depot buildings, water-tanks, &c., were burned and utterly destroyed, and 1 rebel major, 8 other officers (captains and lieutenants), and 46 men, comprising the entire force, were captured.

Halting near Bolling's Bridge for the night, a march was made on the morning of the 8th for Nottoway River railroad bridge, which was reached about 10 a. m. This bridge, after a fight lasting for over an hour with the enemy, was burned by my command, assisted by the Second Brigade, under command of Colonel Spear. I must here mention the important part taken in this affair by the First District of Columbia Cavalry, commanded by Maj. J. S. Baker. A portion of

Major Baker's command, deployed as skirmishers in the woods at our right, drove the enemy from a strong position, and, assisted by a small force of carbineers from the Third New York Cavalry, compelled him to retreat to a fort which commanded the bridge. In this engagement my command lost 2 men killed and 17 wounded. Capt. John Ebbs, of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, were both severely wounded in this fight, the latter of whom has since died. Our wounded were all brought in with the command. Our dead having been buried and the wounded cared for, I marched my brigade on the left of the column, about 5 p. m. of the 8th, to within 1 mile of Sussex Court-House, where I bivouacked for the night. Early on the morning of the 9th I resumed the march, crossing the Nottoway River at Allen's Bridge, and proceeding on the plank road toward Petersburg, struck the road leading to City Point, bivouacking for the night near Prince George Court-House, and resuming the march early on the morning of the 10th, reached City Point about noon of that day, bringing in with me all of our wounded and the prisoners captured. The men and horses of the command, considering the severity of the labor performed on the raid, were in better condition than might have reasonably been expected.

I desire to make favorable mention of the officers and men of the First District of Columbia Cavalry throughout the entire affair. The Third New York Cavalry also bore a conspicuous part, and performed all the work required of it in a commendable manner. All the officers and men of my brigade behaved with a degree of energy and valor to excite admiration.

I transmit herewith reports of regimental commanders, and lists of casualties* as furnished by the surgeon-in-chief of my brigade.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SIMON H. MIX,
Colonel Third New York Cavalry, Comdg. First Brig.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Kautz's Cavalry Division.

No. 78.

Report of Maj. Ferris Jacobs, jr., Third New York Cavalry, commanding First Brigade, of operations May 12-17.

CAMP THIRD NEW YORK CAVALRY,
In Trenches, near Appomattox River, May 26, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor, as commander of the First Brigade, Kautz's Cavalry Division, on the late raid on enemy's communications south of Richmond, to make the following report:

On the morning of the 12th instant, being assigned to the right, I moved with my brigade (the First District of Columbia Cavalry in advance) through General Butler's lines, near Proctor's Creek (my advance guard receiving a slight fire from the enemy's extreme right line of skirmishers), across the railroad, without further opposition, taking the road to Chesterfield Court-House, at which place several

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 17.

prisoners were found confined in the jail, and released. Reached Coalfield Station, on the Danville railroad, about midnight, seized the telegraph office, destroyed the wires, and procuring tools from the mines near by, succeeded in tearing up the track for a considerable distance, burned several cars and all the appurtenances of railroad station. The Second Brigade then took the advance, and about noon of the 13th arrived at Powhatan Station, destroying it, crossed Goode's Bridge, and bivouacked in the woods for the night. The morning of the 14th moved on Chula Station, destroyed a locomotive, and was ordered to move with the carbineers of the Third New York Cavalry upon the enemy's position at the bridge over Flat Creek. Moved down upon the track with 130 carbineers of the Third and one piece of Richardson's howitzer section, under Lieutenant Burke. Found the enemy in considerable force, and deploying to the right and left of the track, moved down in line of skirmishers upon the bridge. A portion of my left (about 50 men, under Capt. R. M. Hall) reached the bridge, and reported that the timbers were partly covered with tin and very wet, rendering it impossible to destroy it without prepared combustibles. The fire of enemy at this point became very deadly, and their position was so low as to be out of range of my piece. They were also supported by a heavy line of skirmishers and sharpshooters on a high ridge immediately in their rear, but beyond the range of my carbines. I succeeded, however, in holding the position until ordered to withdraw, which I did, the enemy pursuing closely and in largely superior numbers. My loss was almost entirely from Captain Hall's command, and numbered 35 men killed, wounded, and missing. I regret to state that my missing were nearly all men wounded in attempting to bring off their wounded comrades, the ambulance and horses having been left 1 mile to the rear. Resumed the march, First District of Columbia in advance, and reached Wilson's Station, on South Side Railroad, and Blacks and Whites about night-fall, destroying them and 15 cars loaded with grain, &c. Marched all night in the rain through Jonesville, and halted for the night at Lawrenceville.

On the 16th took the advance, crossed the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad at Jarratt's Station, avoiding Belfield, First District of Columbia on the right, and burning a pontoon bridge and watertank. Finding Freeman's Bridge destroyed, it was rebuilt by the First District of Columbia, under Major Baker, and the command moved on, with frequent skirmishing, toward City Point, where it arrived on the afternoon of the 17th in a completely exhausted condition. The casualties of the First District of Columbia Cavalry were 1 lieutenant slightly wounded in leg, 1 enlisted man killed, and 5 enlisted men wounded. The casualties of Third New York Cavalry were 1 lieutenant slightly wounded in neck, and 35 men killed, wounded, and missing.

The conduct of the command, both officers and men, in action and along the line of march, was such as to merit my warmest commendation, and highly creditable to their discipline and reputation as soldiers.

And, captain, I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. JACOBS, JR.,
Major, Comdg. First Brigade, Kautz's Cavalry Division.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Kautz's Cavalry Division.

No. 79.

Reports of Maj. J. Stannard Baker, First District of Columbia Cavalry, of operations May 5-17.

HDQRS. FIRST DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CAVALRY,
In the Field, May 29, 1864.

COLONEL: Herewith I have the honor to report briefly the part taken by this regiment in the first raid May 5 to May 10, inclusive:

May 5.—In compliance with the order of Colonel Mix, commanding First Brigade of Cavalry, in the division of General A. V. Kautz, the First District of Columbia Cavalry, under command of Maj. J. S. Baker, marched from Deep Creek, Dismal Swamp, Va., and joined General Kautz's column near Bowers' Hill and reached Suffolk a little after noon, where we halted a short time, then marched toward Blackwater River, and about 9 o'clock in the evening the column halted in the woods for the night and slept a few hours.

Friday, 6th.—Started about 3 o'clock in the morning and crossed the Blackwater in the afternoon, and in the evening halted in the woods near the railroad at Wakefield.

Saturday, 7th.—Before daylight commenced the march and reached the Nottoway River and crossed it near Stony Creek about 3 p. m., where we found the Third New York Cavalry had just met the enemy in a smart engagement and whipped them. After aiding to destroy the railroad station with other buildings and a bridge the column recrossed the Nottoway and halted for the night.

Sunday, 8th.—About 8 a. m. marched for Nottoway railroad bridge above Jarratt's Station, which was reached before noon, where we found the enemy intrenched behind earth-works at the opposite end of the bridge. They came across in considerable force and formed a line of skirmishers and battle along the railroad, from which they were speedily driven into their fortifications across the bridge. After a spirited contest by Companies A, B, C, F, and E, of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, who were dismounted and deployed as skirmishers, under command of Maj. D. S. Curtis, and with vigor and bravery drove the enemy in superior numbers double-quick through the woods more than half a mile and down the track toward the bridge, when we came up with a portion of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, under Colonel Spear, who had drawn up his men along the railroad on our left. Colonel Spear then ordered our skirmishers to be halted and massed with the Eleventh Pennsylvania to charge upon the bridge, which was quickly done, and our men rushing down the track, the bridge was quickly reached, under the sharp fire of the enemy from shelter of the covered bridge and their breast-works. The bridge was soon fired by the First District of Columbia Cavalry and burnt, when they returned to the road from which we had started and occupied an old building for hospital purposes to care for our wounded. The First District of Columbia Cavalry lost 2 killed and 8 wounded. Among the latter was Lieutenant Jackson, a brave and noble young officer. Several of the enemy were taken prisoners and a number killed. About 5 p. m. we started and marched to Sussex Court-House, where we halted for the night.

Monday, 9th.—Started before daylight and marched to Hawkinsville, from which place the rebel pickets had been driven by our advance guard. By about noon halted a short time, started again, and at 3 o'clock halted for dinner; then marched to an old church within about 8 miles of City Point and halted for the night.

Tuesday, 10th.—Reached City Point before noon and encamped for the night.

Wednesday, 11th.—Crossed the Appomattox to Bermuda Hundred, halted a short time, then marched to near General Butler's headquarters.

J. STANNARD BAKER,
Major, Comdg. First District of Columbia Cavalry.

Col. S. H. MIX,
Comdg. First Brigade, Kautz's Cavalry Division.

HDQRS. FIRST DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CAVALRY,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 26, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit to you the following report of the doings of the First District of Columbia Cavalry while on the last raid of General Kautz's Cavalry Division in Southern Virginia:

On the morning of the 12th of May orders were received by Major Baker, commanding the regiment, which was then in camp near General Butler's headquarters, to march at once, leaving all wagons, pack-mules, baggage, led horses, and sick in camp. By order from General Kautz this regiment took the advance, the first squadron acting as advance guard. Very soon after having passed the outposts of General Butler's army the advance guard was fired upon by a picket-station at a crotch of the roads near Swift Creek. The fire being sharply returned the pickets were driven in. During the entire day the advance guards exchanged frequent shots with pickets and small parties of the enemy along our route, and in some cases charged them with sabers, capturing a few prisoners. At Chesterfield Court-House the jail was broken open and a number of rebel conscripts were released. At Coalfield Station, which was reached about 11 o'clock in the evening, the telegraph was cut, railroad torn up, depot building, water-tanks, wood-sheds, and also a tannery were burned. Six cars standing upon the track at this station were also burned. Major Baker, by order of General Kautz, remained with the regiment at this station to see that the orders in relation to the destruction of rebel property were executed, and upon the march to fall in the rear of the column. Upon the next day (13th of May), being in the rear, nothing of importance was done by the regiment. On the morning of the next day the regiment was again placed upon the advance, Company C being the advance guard. During the afternoon Wellville Station was reached, where the railroad and telegraph were cut, and a large quantity of grain and bacon and other stores were taken. The advance guard reached Blacks and Whites Station about 8 o'clock on the evening of the same day, where large quantities of grain, bacon, and other stores were taken and destroyed, depot, store-houses, water-tanks, woodshed, and thirteen cars, mostly loaded with forage, were burned. Major Baker, by order of General Kautz, remained with his regiment at the station to see that the orders in relation to the destruction of property were carried out, and upon the march the column to take the rear.

On Sunday, the 15th, the regiment was in the rear. One squadron was acting as rear guard. As the rear guard was crossing a

bridge across the Appomattox River, Major Baker received orders from Major Jacobs, commanding brigade, to destroy the bridge after the column had passed over it, which order was executed. That night the command encamped in the town of Lawrenceville. During the march of the next day nothing occurred until about noon, when the regiment was again ordered to the front, one squadron acting as advance guard. Jarratt's Station was reached in the afternoon, where the water-tank was burned and several prisoners captured. A train of pontoons was destroyed by the pioneers of the regiment near Jarratt's Station. Pickets and small parties of the enemy were frequently encountered by the advance guard during the afternoon and evening of this day. The advance guard reached Freeman's Bridge about 12 o'clock at night and found two spans of the bridge cut away and the bridge guarded by a force of the enemy, which was quickly driven off. In accordance with orders from General Kautz operations were immediately commenced by Major Baker with his command in repairing the bridge, and in just two hours and a half the bridge was in readiness for the command to cross. During the following day this regiment still retained the advance. During the day the advance guard had frequent skirmishes with the enemy's pickets. Some prisoners were captured and City Point was reached in the afternoon. The casualties in the regiment on this raid are as follows: 1 lieutenant wounded in the leg slightly, 1 enlisted man wounded, and 5 enlisted men missing.

All of which is very respectfully submitted.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. STANNARD BAKER,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

[Maj. FERRIS JACOBS, JR.,
Commanding First Brigade.]

No. 80.

Report of Maj. Ferris Jacobs, jr., Third New York Cavalry, of operations May 5–10.

CAMP THIRD NEW YORK CAVALRY,
In the Trenches, near Petersburg, Va., May 26, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor as commander of the Third New York Cavalry on the late raid from Suffolk against the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad to make the following report, to wit:

Left Getty's Station near Portsmouth, Va., May 5. Marched with one short halt at night, and on the noon of the 6th passed through Fearnsville, near the Blackwater. Crossed the Blackwater at Wall's Bridge and camped at Wakefield Station, on Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad.

Reached the Nottoway River on the 7th and crossed near Littleton, passed on through Coman's Well, and again crossed the Nottoway at Bolling's Bridge, after a slight skirmish, in which 1 man of M Company was killed. Upon arriving in the immediate vicinity of Stony Creek bridge on the railroad, my advance received a sharp fire from the body of the enemy in position there. Finding it to be impossi-

ble without severe loss to dislodge them by a direct attack, I ordered Major Hall with a battalion to attack them with dismounted skirmishers upon the extreme left, while I crossed the river with Companies G and E on the right, both bodies arriving at the bridge almost simultaneously, capturing 1 major, 8 other officers of inferior grade (captains and lieutenants), and 46 men. This action cost the regiment the life of Lieut. John Mayes, one of its most valuable and gallant officers, and 2 men wounded. Maj. Newton Hall commanded the battalion on the right, and conducted the advance with excellent coolness, judgment, and gallantry. Remaining at Stony Creek bridge the remainder of the night, I again received the right, and upon arriving at White's Bridge, on the railroad and over the Nottoway River, was ordered to move with dismounted skirmishers against the enemy, who were strongly intrenched on the opposite side. While organizing the attack, I perceived that a body of the enemy, numbering about 500 men, were leaving the bridge and fort and pushing rapidly to our left. Reported the fact to the general, who ordered me to take command of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, move through the woods on our left dismounted, and attack, which I did, leaving the immediate command of the regiment to Major Hall, previous to which I had sent Lieutenant Dern with L Company to reconnoiter the enemy's position along the river on the right. From Major Hall's report I find that cotemporaneously with the movement of the First District of Columbia Cavalry on our left about 100 carbineers, of Companies C, E, G, D, and M, where moved into the woods on the right of the First District of Columbia, under command of Lieut. P. Jeffries, deployed as skirmishers and moved up to the railroad. Capt. John Ebbs also commanded a body of skirmishers near the same place. Upon arriving near the track, they were received by a heavy fire from the enemy posted mainly on the opposite side of the track. Although most of the attacking party consisted of raw recruits, for the first time under fire, they behaved with spirit, and with the assistance of the First District of Columbia in a few moments drove the enemy from their position. All these detachments being united under Colonel Spear, who arrived with Second Brigade a few moments after, a combined massed attack was made upon the enemy's position at the bridge, which resulted in its capture and destruction. Capt. John Ebbs fell severely wounded while charging the enemy and driving them from their position behind the track. The other casualties were 9 men wounded, 1 falling on the bridge while assisting to burn it, falling into the enemy's hands, but afterward recovered on flag of truce. Privates John Gray and Hubbard Carr, of B Company, behaved meritoriously in assisting Major Curtis, of the First District of Columbia, to burn the bridge under a galling fire. The column then set out to return, bivouacking the night of the 8th near Sussex Court-House.

On the 9th crossed the Nottoway at Allen's Bridge, struck plank road, moved toward City Point, passing the night near Prince George Court-House, and entered City Point on the afternoon of the 10th instant, the command, both horses and men, in a greatly exhausted condition.

And, I am, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

F. JACOBS, JR.,
Major, Commanding Third New York Cavalry.

Col. SIMON H. MIX,
Comdg. First Brigade, Kautz's Cavalry Division.

No. 81.

Report of Maj. Newton Hall, Third New York Cavalry, of operations May 12–17.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD NEW YORK CAVALRY.
City Point, May 18, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements and operations of the Third Regiment Volunteer Cavalry, under my command, during the recent raid against the Danville, South Side, and Petersburg and Weldon Railroads.

The Cavalry Division of General Kautz, to which the regiment is attached, left camp near Bermuda Hundred on the forenoon of the 12th instant, and passing in rear of the advance of General Butler, crossed the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad at Chester Station, which had already been visited by our forces, and proceeding onward reached Chesterfield Court-House without serious molestation about 2 p. m. Here several prisoners, confined for refusing to serve in the ranks of the rebel army, were released, and some public stores destroyed, after which we pushed forward to Coalfield Station, on the Danville road, which we reached at midnight. The track was torn up for a considerable distance by the regiment, assisted by the First District of Columbia Cavalry. A train of cars, depot, and public stores to a great amount burned and as great a destruction of all, but private property, made as possible, when we fell back about 4 miles and remained by the side of the road until morning. On the 13th we struck the road again at Powhatan and at Mattoax Bridge, destroying cars, depots, and a large quantity of rebel stores at the former place, besides tearing up the track to a considerable extent. On approaching the iron bridge across the Appomattox in the afternoon, we found it guarded by a strong force of infantry and artillery, and making a detour to the left reached the road bridge across the river about 5 p. m. and found that a part of this bridge had been destroyed. Immediate preparations were made for repairing it, and we crossed it in safety shortly after dark, and marching about 2 miles, bivouacked until dawn.

The next morning we marched forward to the station (Chula), where the advance had already taken a locomotive, with tender attached, and dismounting about 100 or 150 men of the regiment, armed mostly with carbines, of whom you, sir, took the command, an attempt was made to burn the bridge across Swift Creek, but, being opposed by a vastly superior force of the enemy, were unable to accomplish their purpose and were ordered to retire after a gallant and persistent struggle, in which the regiment lost nearly 30 killed, wounded, and missing. On the afternoon of this day the regiment assisted in breaking the South Side Railroad at Wellville and Blacks and Whites. At the latter place a large quantity of public stores were destroyed. On the 15th we passed through Jonesville and camped at Lawrenceville or Brunswick Court-House. Learning that a very superior force of the enemy were collected to oppose us at Belfield we passed to the left, crossing the Weldon and Petersburg road at Jarratt's Station, when the track was again torn up, the water-tank destroyed, and near which a splendid pontoon train was burned. We reached Freeman's Bridge across the Nottoway shortly after midnight, and the advance, consisting of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, had a slight skirmish with a party of the enemy

attempting to destroy it. The rebels were speedily driven away, the bridge repaired, and we crossed about daybreak. Passing near Prince George Court-House we crossed the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad about noon of the 17th, rendering useless the repairs that had been made after our previous raid, and reached City Point on the afternoon of the same day.

The conduct of both officers and men under my command during the march was such as to deserve my warmest commendation.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NEWTON HALL,
Major, Commanding Third New York Cavalry.

Maj. F. JACOBS, Jr.,
Commanding First Brigade, Kautz's Cavalry Division.

No. 82.

Report of Col. Samuel P. Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations May 5–17.

HDQRS. 2D CAV. BRIG., KAUTZ'S DIV., 18TH A. C.,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 25, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to instructions received from you as per letter of May 24, 1864, I have the honor to make the following report:

May 5.—The Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, excepting one company on detached service, took up the line of march near Portsmouth, Va., about 5 a. m. Arriving at Bowers' Hill, a distance of 4 miles, they were joined by eight companies of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry. We then marched direct for Suffolk, where four more companies of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry joined us, making in all twenty-three companies, twelve of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry and eleven of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry. With this force I proceeded in the direction of the Blackwater River, bivouacking at Andrews' Corners.

On the morning of May 6 we again started, and by a circuitous route reached Birch Island Bridge, Blackwater River (the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry being in the advance). Here, after a short but determined resistance, we crossed. Lieut. L. F. Prud'homme, my acting assistant adjutant-general, was severely wounded in the thigh. At this point the carbineers of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry were dismounted and charged on foot, all under command of Maj. A. J. Ackerly, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry. After crossing the river my brigade proceeded at once to Wakefield, on the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad. There the railroad and telegraph line was destroyed, together with a large amount of Confederate Government stores.

May 7.—At daylight my brigade again started, being this day in the rear of the column. Marched direct for Sussex County Court-House. Left it on the left and marched for the Nottoway River to a bridge situated about 4 miles above Jarratt's Station, arriving there about dusk. Mean time the command had been divided, a portion of it (the First Brigade), with which was the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry (one of the regiments of my brigade), going

to Stony Creek; the balance of my command (Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry) proceeded to Nottoway River bridge to feel the enemy. After remaining there about an hour the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry withdrew and joined the other regiment, about 9 p. m., near Stony Creek, where all bivouacked. During the day the howitzers of the Eleventh Pennsylvania were left in the rear, owing to the fact that the horses attached to them gave out.

May 8.—The brigade took up the line of march about daylight, and went toward Jarratt's Station, on the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad, the Eleventh Pennsylvania being in the advance. On arriving at the station we were met by a portion of the Holcombe Legion; the carbineers of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry dismounted, and, after a desperate conflict (taking into consideration the number engaged), were repulsed. The Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry was then ordered forward (they all carrying carbines), were dismounted, and ordered to charge the enemy. At the same time the howitzers of the Fifth were playing upon the enemy. After a short fight the place was carried; 37 prisoners were taken, among whom were several line officers. Previous to this time about 2 miles of railroad and telegraph line had been destroyed near the station and at it; the office, depot, and a number of public buildings, together with a large amount of Confederate Government stores, were destroyed. My brigade was then countermarched and moved toward Nottoway River bridge, the Fifth Pennsylvania marching by file on the railroad, the Eleventh going by the road. A short time served to bring us to the bridge. Here we found the Fifty-ninth Virginia, under command of Colonel Tabb, and a portion of the Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion. Here the Fifth Pennsylvania was dismounted and made the first charge. The First Brigade, together with Lieutenant Morton's battery, Eighth New York Artillery, and the howitzers of both cavalry regiments (those of the Eleventh Pennsylvania having joined us) assisted in the fight, which lasted about an hour, at the expiration of which time our object was accomplished and the railroad bridge burned. The brigade then, in conjunction with the First, halted for a few hours, then took up the line of march, and bivouacked at Sussex Court-House.

May 9.—Marched at daylight, in advance, crossed the Nottoway at Allen's Bridge, and took the plank road to Petersburg. When within 9 miles turned to the right; destroyed a culvert on the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad; lost 1 man there (prisoner); bivouacked at Mount Sinai Church.

May 10.—Reached City Point about 10 a. m. Remained till next day.

May 11.—Crossed to Bermuda Hundred and bivouacked, and remained until morning.

May 12.—Again left camp. The forces stationed near Bermuda Hundred made a feint, by which we were enabled to pass beyond the enemy's lines; reached Chester Station about 2 p. m. 3.30 p. m. reached Coalfield Pits, where the Danville railroad was destroyed; bivouacked about 3 miles from Coalfield Pits.

May 13.—Started about 4 a. m. in the direction of Powhatan Station, reached there about 8.30 a. m.. Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry in advance, destroyed the railroad, a number of public buildings, and the telegraph line; also seized the apparatus, seized and destroyed eight cars laden with baled hay; also a large amount of corn and other stores. Moved rapidly to the high iron bridge on the Mattoax.

Finding it defended by four pieces of artillery and a regiment of infantry, moved back and proceeded to Goode's Bridge, 6 miles below; found that the bridge had been destroyed. Major Stratton, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, was detailed to superintend its reconstruction, which work he accomplished in three hours. The bridge having been crossed was again destroyed, Eleventh Pennsylvania in advance; reached Chula Station about 12.30 p. m. Here the Eleventh Pennsylvania captured a locomotive, which had brought a train of cars loaded with troops to defend the station; bivouacked near there.

May 14.—Took up the line of march about 4.30 a. m., First Brigade in the advance; proceeded to Flat Creek bridge, Eleventh Pennsylvania on left and Third New York on right; deployed to make a demonstration on Flat Creek bridge. Here, after a lively engagement, some men of the Eleventh Pennsylvania were lost; also 1 officer killed in a charge of carbineers; destroyed the railroad and telegraph line at this point for a considerable distance. Was ordered by General Kautz to fall back. Took the road to Bevill's Bridge. Captain Bayley, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, in command of advance guard, took charge at Deep Creek bridge. Saw some 30 or 40 rebel cavalry. On arriving at the Petersburg road, the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry was pushed as a feint down it, and, after the command passing, it brought up in rear. After leaving this bridge about 3 or 4 miles in our rear, the brigades were separated, the Second Brigade going to Wilson's to destroy the South Side Railroad at that point, which was effectually done. Here a courier from General Kautz brought an order for us to report with the brigade at Blacks and Whites, to which point the other brigade had gone. This we did, and upon arriving were directed to move out about 3 miles and bivouac, which was done at Booth's plantation, about 4 miles from Blacks and Whites Station, on the South Side Railroad.

May 15.—Started late, marched to Lawrenceville. Nothing important occurred on the way. Bivouacked at the Brunswick County Court-House. In an outbuilding found and destroyed about 125 sacks of salt. This was done by the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry.

May 16.—Left at daylight. Started on the direct road for Bellfield. When within about 4 miles made a detour which brought us to Jarratt's Station, the place where the railroad was destroyed by us a short time before. Here nothing was done by us, the First Brigade having effectually demolished all Government property, they being in the advance. Made a forced march to Freeman's Bridge, which crossed the Nottoway, which we reached at 3.30 a. m. and crossed; bivouacked at Major Belcher's farm.

May 17.—Started early. Nothing of importance occurred during the day till about 4 p. m., when the command was within a few miles of City Point. Here a small command of 60 or 70 rebel cavalry charged by a side road, halted within 20 yards of L Company, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, and delivered a fire from shotguns. The company halted and returned the fire, whereupon the rebels took to the woods. One man killed by a fire from the woods. Arrived at City Point and bivouacked.

The following is a list of the casualties in my brigade: Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, 1 commissioned officer and 6 privates killed; 1 commissioned officer, 1 sergeant, and 12 privates wounded. Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, 2 men killed, 1 captain and 16 men wounded, and 4 men missing.

The above I believe to be a correct report of the operations of my brigade. Of the Eleventh Pennsylvania I need say nothing as I am colonel of the regiment. All I would say is that they have behaved as usual. To the Fifth Pennsylvania I would particularly call the attention of the commanding general. Every order given them was promptly obeyed, and under fire no regiment could have behaved better. The manner in which the officers and men of this regiment behaved at Jarratt's Station and at the taking and destruction of the Nottoway bridge proved the material to be most excellent and deserves my especial commendation.

I am, sir, with high respect, your obedient servant,

SAML. P. SPEAR,
Col. Eleventh Pa. Cav., Comdg. 3d Brig., Cav. Div.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Kautz's Cavalry Division.

No. 83.

Report of Lieut. Col. Christopher Kleinz, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, of operations May 8.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,
Near Bermuda Hundred, May 24, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report the following as the operations of my regiment during the late raids:

On the morning of the 8th instant, previous to which nothing of importance had occurred during the march, we arrived near Jarratt's Station, on the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad. The Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, having been repulsed at the station, my regiment was ordered to the front and directed by Col. S. P. Spear, commanding brigade, to take the place. I dismounted 3 out of 4 of my men, and made such disposition of the led horses as would secure them from the confusion and danger of the fight. The First Battalion was directed by Colonel Spear to be deployed as skirmishers on the left of the railroad. The First Squadron of the Second Battalion I then ordered to deploy on the right of the railroad, with directions to advance and wheel to the left so as to take the enemy on the flank and rear. The section of howitzers of my regiment had already been ordered into position and commenced firing, while the line of skirmishers advanced rapidly, attacking the enemy in the most gallant and vigorous manner, the reserves advancing in close supporting distance. The enemy was strongly posted in houses and behind the bank of the railroad, numbering about 500 men, and as we advanced, poured a most terrific fire into my men, who were without cover. At this time I ordered a charge, and with a yell my men rushed upon the foe, who either surrendered or fled in wild confusion. We captured 37 prisoners, including a captain and 2 lieutenants during the engagement, which lasted about three-quarters of an hour. The howitzers of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry arrived during the engagement and assisted in shelling the enemy's position. We immediately proceeded to destroy the depot and railroad buildings with everything that could be of use to the enemy. The following is a list* of the casualties of my

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 8 men wounded and 2 killed.

regiment at that place. As soon as the destruction was completed, the dead buried, and the wounded cared for, we were ordered to march in the direction of Nottoway bridge. On arriving near the bridge I was ordered to take a by-road leading to the railroad, striking it about 1 mile below and southeast of the bridge. Here, by direction of Colonel Spear, I dismounted my men, preparing to fight on foot, and found the enemy's skirmishers directly in my front. All my dismounted men, with the exception of about one squadron for the protection of the led horses, were formed in column, and under the personal command of Colonel Spear dashed through the enemy's skirmishers on a double-quick in the direction of the bridge, which was held by a regiment of the enemy's infantry in a strong earthwork. The attention of the enemy had been previously engaged by the dismounted men of the Third New York Cavalry and First District of Columbia Cavalry, and were being shelled by our artillery. My men were ordered to move directly and rapidly on the bridge and destroy it. This they did with so much impetuosity that nothing could impede their way, and while a strong party of the rebels were yet on the bridge, it was taken by my men and the enemy found there captured. The bridge was fired by Company G, of my regiment, commanded by Captain Ker, under a most galling fire. After this was accomplished my men were ordered to retire, which they did slowly and in good order.

I captured 23 prisoners during this engagement, 1 being a captain. The enemy's loss was very heavy from the fact that they were driven for a mile so closely that they were not able to fire a shot, while my men were deliberately shooting them down. The loss in my regiment at that place was as follows: Killed, 1; wounded, 9. On the second raid I lost 1 man, Private Patrick Gartland, severely wounded by an attack made by bushwackers near the Petersburg and Weldon turnpike. The following is a statement of the casualties in my regiment during the late raids: Two men killed, 1 captain and 16 men wounded, and 4 men missing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. KLEINZ,
Major, Commanding.

Lieut. J. D. MAHON,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cavalry Brigade.

No. 84.

Report of Lieut. Col. George Stetzel, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, of operations May 5–17.

HDQRS. ELEVENTH PENNSYLVANIA VOL. CAVALRY,
Near Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 24, 1864.

COLONEL: Pursuant to orders from headquarters Second Brigade, Kautz's division, Eighteenth Army Corps, I have the honor to transmit the following report of the operations of my regiment in the recent raid commanded by Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz:

My regiment left Portsmouth, Va., in light marching order May 5 at sunrise. Arrived at Andrews' Corners at sundown; bivouacked until 12 o'clock midnight. Marched thence via Windsor, near Sycamore Church, Isle of Wight Court-House, to Fearnsville, where we arrived at 10 a. m. May 6. After feeding resumed march, via Cypress Church, Cypress Swamp bridge, to Birch Island Bridge, across

the Blackwater River. At this point the advance guard discovered a small party of rebels engaged in destroying the bridge. The advance guard, composed of a portion of Company A, Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, immediately dismounted and charged upon the bridge, driving the rebels from their position. Lieut. L. F. Prud'homme, acting assistant adjutant-general to Col. S. P. Spear, commanding Second Brigade, was severely wounded. No other casualties in my regiment. We crossed the bridge at about 5 p. m. Thence continued to Wakefield Station, arriving there at 6.30 p. m., my regiment being in advance since leaving Portsmouth. Bivouacked until 4 a. m. May 7, my regiment in rear. Crossed the Nottoway at Peter's Bridge. About noon arrived at the Nottoway railroad bridge (Petersburg and Weldon Railroad). At sundown found the enemy in force at the bridge and on the railroad; also discovered a large train of cars which had but recently arrived from Weldon, N. C., loaded with troops. Received orders from the colonel commanding brigade to prepare to attack the enemy. I immediately ordered my carbineers to dismount, form in line of battle, and await further instructions. The brigade commander, in his judgment, deemed it best not to attack the enemy in consequence of the approaching darkness. I then received orders to return up the river road about 2 miles and bivouacked at 8 p. m. At 3 a. m. received orders to march to Jarratt's Station, about 4 miles down the river road, past the Nottoway bridge. Arrived at Jarratt's Station soon after daylight. Was directed by Colonel Spear to send forward all my carbineers to attack the enemy, who were in superior force in a strong position at the station. My carbineers made two distinct charges, but each time were repulsed, owing to superior numbers and to the concentrated fire of the enemy. I received instructions from the brigade commander to fall back along the railroad and commence destroying it until reenforcements arrived, when Jarratt's Station would again be attacked. I placed a large body of men in charge of Maj. F. A. Stratton, Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, with instructions to tear up the track and twist the rails. Said duty was effectually performed by Major Stratton. Some time during the day the Fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry arrived, which, together with all my carbineers, including two howitzers of my regiment, made the second attack upon Jarratt's Station, driving the enemy, capturing 37 prisoners, among them several officers, completely destroying the station, containing a large amount of rebel Government stores. After the destruction of Jarratt's Station I was ordered by the brigade commander to send two companies of my regiment down the railroad toward Nottoway railroad bridge and to proceed with the remainder of my regiment (seven companies) and attack the enemy at the Nottoway railroad bridge at the point where the line was first formed on the evening of the 7th. At this point found the general commanding already engaged with the enemy. The enemy was charged from the railroad, driven across the bridge, and the structure completely destroyed. I received orders from the general commanding to communicate by flag of truce with the officer commanding the rebel forces, and, if possible, effect an exchange of prisoners, it having been ascertained that a few of our men had fallen into the hands of the enemy. I found upon communicating with Col. William B. Tabb, of the Fifty-ninth Virginia, commanding the rebel forces, that he had but 1 officer and 4 privates in his possession as prisoners. The officer and 2 of the privates were severely wounded.

Having carried out my instructions I returned and reported in person to the commanding general, from whom I received orders to mount my regiment and take up the line of march, arriving at Sussex Court-House at dark. Soon after arrival at Court-House I sent two companies to take possession of and hold Allen's Bridge across the Nottoway River about 6 miles from the Court-House. At 3 a. m. May 9 marched via Allen's Bridge (which I repaired), my regiment in advance, to the plank road east of the Nottoway, there turned to the left and followed that road to within 9 miles of Petersburg (making a rapid march of 25 miles without halting and a very hot day), there turned to the right, crossed the Petersburg and Norfolk Railroad, destroyed a stringer bridge 35 feet long, crossed the Blackwater, and encamped 2 or 3 miles beyond at Mount Sinai Church, 10 miles from City Point.

May 10, resumed march, arriving at City Point about noon; encamped at City Point. Left City Point May 11. Crossed the river at Bermuda Hundred and bivouacked about 4 miles from Bermuda Hundred. Received an order to detail two companies of my regiment to report to General Smith, which detail I filled with Companies B and H. May 12, resumed march, crossed the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad at Chester Station; arrived at Coalfield Station on Richmond and Danville Railroad. The station was destroyed; bivouacked on the roadside until daylight. May 13, arrived at Powhatan Station, on Danville and Richmond Railroad; burned fifteen double cars loaded with bale straw; burned the station, containing a large amount of Government stores; also tore up a large track of railroad. Arrived at Goode's Bridge, on the Appomattox River; found the bridge partially destroyed by the citizens. Repaired the bridge and succeeded in crossing at dusk. Arrived at Chula Station during the night. Bivouacked until daylight, found the enemy in the vicinity of the station, destroyed one locomotive, and captured several prisoners. May 14, engaged the enemy at Light [Flat Creek] Bridge. Found the enemy in strong position; had quite a brisk skirmish, in which we lost several men killed and wounded. Among the killed was Lieut. Daniel H. Schriver. Finding we could not remove the enemy from their strong position we were ordered to fall back. The station was destroyed, and we resumed the march to Wellville Station, on the Lynchburg and Petersburg Railroad. On approaching within 4 or 5 miles of Wellville Station my regiment was detached and ordered to proceed to Wilson's Station, 4 miles above Wellville Station, destroying said station and tearing up considerable of the railroad track and burning a large quantity of wood. Thence we proceeded to Blacks and Whites Station, destroying it and a large amount of rebel stores; bivouacked for the night 5 miles from Blacks and Whites Station. May 15, resumed the march to within 7 miles of Hicksford, turned to the left, and proceeded to Jarratt's Station; destroyed said station the second time. Bivouacked at Freeman's Bridge across the Nottoway, which had been destroyed. The bridge was repaired and the command crossed. May 17, returned to City Point about 8 p. m. On arriving within 7 or 8 miles of City Point the rear of my regiment was attacked by 75 or 100 rebel cavalry, killing 1 man. I started in pursuit of the rebels, but failed to overtake them. The following is a correct list of killed and wounded:*

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 officer and 6 enlisted men killed, and 13 men wounded.

The following is a correct list of horses lost and abandoned: Nine killed in action, 45 necessarily abandoned and died along the roadside.

GEO. STETZEL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Col. S. P. SPEAR,
Comdg. Second Cavalry Brigade.

No. 85.

Report of Col. Henry L. Abbot, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, commanding Siege Train and Siege Artillery, of operations May 10–June 4.

HDQRS. SIEGE TRAIN AND SIEGE ARTILLERY,
Broadway Landing, Va., December 5, 1864.

GENERAL: In accordance with your instructions I have the honor to submit the following report upon the operations of my command from the opening of the campaign in May to the 31st day of October. It comprises all the siege artillery in front of Richmond, and hence has served in part with the Army of the James and in part with the Army of the Potomac. Finding it impossible to subdivide its operations in a satisfactory manner, I have made this report a complete record of the Siege Artillery in front of Richmond:

On April 20, 1864, I received a confidential memorandum from Major-General Halleck, chief of staff, Armies of the United States, directing me to organize a siege train. I was informed that this memorandum was based upon a project drawn up by Brig. Gen. H. J. Hunt, chief of artillery, Army of the Potomac, and that it was intended to order me to report to him when the train was brought into use. Its composition was the following, viz: Forty rifled siege guns (4½-inch ordnance or 30-pounder Parrotts), ten 10-inch mortars, twenty 8-inch mortars, twenty Coehorn mortars, with a reserve of six 100-pounder Parrotts. Subsequently ten 8-inch siege howitzers were added to the list. The necessary mortar wagons, battery wagons, forges, &c., were to be provided, together with the following supply of ammunition: One thousand rounds per gun, except the 100-pounders, which were to have 500 rounds each, 600 rounds per heavy mortar, and 200 rounds per Coehorn. All this train was to be afloat at the Washington Arsenal as soon as possible; and twenty siege guns complete, with 200 rounds each, were to be afloat at that depot by April 30 without fail. Very little of this material was in depot at the Washington Arsenal, but it was collected from all quarters with great rapidity by the Ordnance Department. About a dozen schooners of about 200 tons burden were furnished without delay by the Quartermaster's Department. I detailed Capt. S. P. Hatfield, First Connecticut Artillery, as ordnance officer of the train, and placed him at the arsenal, assisted by First Lieut. L. W. Jackson, to superintend the loading. As the ordnance arrived it was promptly placed on the schooners. The decks were shored up and ten 30-pounder guns placed amid-ships side by side, resting on skids. Their carriages, platforms, and 3,000 rounds of ammunition complete were packed in the hold. The masts and rigging afforded facilities for loading this material,

and rendered the schooners far superior to the canal barges used for the siege train of 1862. The 10-inch mortars with 2,200 rounds were loaded on one schooner; the 8-inch mortars with 2,300 rounds, together with the Cochorn mortars, were loaded on another; the 8-inch howitzers, with their carriages, the mortar wagons, platforms, and miscellaneous articles filled another; the six 100-pounders with 2,000 rounds loaded another. The rest of the vessels carried ammunition, &c. This material was essentially afloat by May 10. On that date my regiment, the First Connecticut Artillery, was ordered forward in advance of the train to report for duty to Major-General Butler, then near Bermuda Hundred, Va.

We arrived on May 13, about 1,700 strong, but 349 men were discharged in ten days on account of expiration of term of service. I had been notified by General Halleck that if General Butler desired it, a part of my train might be sent forward at once. Upon landing, however, I found four 30-pounder Parrotts and five 20-pounder Parrotts already disembarked, and as other pieces were subsequently received from Fort Monroe, this was not judged necessary.

On May 14 I was ordered to report to Colonel Howell, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania, commanding the line of defenses of Bermuda Hundred. My regiment was at once put to work getting the heavy guns into position, making magazines, strengthening the line, &c.

On May 16 the main army fell back to the line of intrenchments.

On May 17 General Butler placed me in command of the siege artillery of his army, then consisting of my regiment and Company M, Third Pennsylvania Artillery, Captain Korte, serving two 8-inch howitzers, ordering me to report direct to his headquarters. First Lieut. W. C. Faxon was immediately detailed by me as ordnance officer, assisted by First Lieut. C. Gillett. A reserve depot of ammunition, to consist of 100 rounds per gun, was established near Hatcher's house, and a regular system of supply for the batteries was organized. From this date, until the arrival of the Army of the Potomac in the latter part of June, a heavy artillery fire was kept up much of the time along the lines. On May 20 a strong demonstration was made by the enemy upon our position, in which they drove in the pickets, but were repulsed on the left by the art lery fire of the works, and on the right (in woods) by the First Division, Tenth Corps. My guns in position were then the following:

Batteries.	30-pounder Parrotts	20-pounder Parrotts	8-inch siege howitzers	32-pounder howitzers	24-pounder howitzer.	Total
Battery Drake		3	6			9
Battery Perry	1	2				3
Battery Anderson	2	1		2	1	6
Battery Pleyn	1	2				3
Total	4	8	6	2	1	17

The fire of those guns bearing on the point of attack (ten in number) was effective and contributed much to the easy repulse of the

enemy. On May 24 the rebels made a determined attack upon Wilson's Landing, on James River, garrisoned chiefly by colored troops. The mail-boat was stopped and all the troops on board were landed to meet the assault. Among them were 6 enlisted men of the First Connecticut Artillery, returning from veteran volunteer furlough. Although no officer of the regiment was present, these men volunteered to serve a 10-pounder Parrott then silenced, and did so so effectively as to contribute materially to the repulse of the rebels. They fired about 80 rounds, some being double-shotted canister, at about 200 yards range, and their gun was the only one not silenced by the enemy. The names of these brave soldiers are Sergt. W. H. H. Bingham, Company G; Privates W. B. Watson, Company H, James Kelly (since killed by a shell in front of Petersburg), H. G. Scott, James R. Young, and John Keaton, of Company I. On May 25 Company G, First Connecticut Artillery, Captain Osborne, was placed with two 20-pounder Parrotts in Fort Converse, on right bank of Appomattox River. Subsequently two 30-pounder Parrotts were added. They did good service in repelling an attack on May 31, and also in occasionally shelling Fort Clifton from an advanced position on the river-bank.

On May 26 Major-General Gillmore was placed in command of the whole line. On the 29th he appointed me his chief of artillery, and on June 1 his acting chief engineer. There were at this time beside my siege guns eight light batteries in Terry's division and six light batteries, with eight mounted howitzers in addition, in Turner's division. Total, eighty-two light guns.

On June 2 the rebels made a strong demonstration on our lines. Previously (on May 21) Company L, First Connecticut Artillery, Captain Pride, had been placed in the advanced redoubt, Dutton, then partially completed, with two 3-pounders and one 24-pounder brass howitzers, and had energetically proceeded to put the work in fighting condition. After driving in the picket-lines on June 2 the Twenty-second South Carolina Regiment, Colonel Dantzler, made a determined assault upon this redoubt. It was repulsed with severe loss by canister fire, the colonel himself being among the killed, of whom 17 were counted. So demoralized was his command that a lieutenant and 22 enlisted men surrendered to the garrison rather than attempt to retreat under the fire. They were brought in with their arms by a detachment of Company L, First Connecticut Artillery, and some dismounted cavalry, serving as infantry supports. On June 4 a platoon of Company H, First Connecticut Artillery, with one 30-pounder Parrott, with Ashby's battery of four 20-pounder Parrotts, was placed under command of First Lieut. George Dimock, First Connecticut Artillery, in Battery Spofford. Subsequently, after several changes, this armament was finally fixed at one 100-pounder Parrott and three 4½-inch guns, all served by Lieutenant Dimock's platoon.*

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Comdg. Siege Artillery.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff.

* For continuation of report, see Vol. XL, Part I.

No. 86.

Report of Capt. William G. Pride, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, of operations June 2.

BATTERY PRIDE (Redoubt Dutton), *June* 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the morning of June 2, 1864, between the hours of 5 and 6 a. m., the enemy appeared and drove in the pickets on our front, composed of the Seventh Connecticut, and compelled them to take shelter under the guns of this redoubt. After some brisk skirmishing the rebels appeared in numbers at the edge of the woods to the right and opposite our front, and I opened upon them a fire of canister, which made them beat a hasty retreat. Finding they did not advance, I ordered forward about 40 men of the cavalry supports under a lieutenant and 21 men from Company L, under the first sergeant, with instructions to form a junction with our pickets on the left. Judging that this support was not enough I sent forward the remainder of Company L, under Lieutenant Rogers (retaining 21 men, sufficient to serve the pieces in the fort), with orders to deploy on the right. At this moment I discovered a white flag waving in the bushes at the spot at which the canister had been fired. The line of skirmishers advanced, and on coming up to the flag they found a squad of the enemy concealed in the underbrush, who were ordered to surrender, which they accordingly did by giving up their arms. I cannot state positively which party came upon the prisoners first, as they were considerably scattered through the edge of the woods and kept coming in until the whole number (23) had arrived. I may state here that there was not a rifle fired by either Company L or the cavalry support, and that these prisoners were captured merely because, being under a direct fire from our howitzers, there was no way of retreat for them without causing a heavy loss of life on their part. This fact they acknowledged to me. In the mean time my 21 men, under the first sergeant, on the left and the cavalry supports in the center, had advanced and occupied without resistance our original picket-line. On the right I had instructed Lieutenant Rogers not to advance up to the rifle-pits, fearing they might be in the woods in force, as it was at this point that the enemy had advanced to the attack. The pickets of the Seventh Regiment at this time lay just in advance of the fort in charge of a captain and lieutenant, to whom I went and ordered them to rally their men and advance to their original line, also telling them that I had sent out sufficient force to hold the picket-post. They then advanced beyond Lieutenant Rogers' line of skirmishers, but the captain in charge of the Seventh Connecticut remarking that he could not hold the line without assistance, Lieutenant Rogers advanced his men in conjunction with the Seventh and posted them in the rifle-pits. I then sent a dispatch to General Terry stating the circumstances and asking for sufficient force to relieve my men and the supports. Company L men were relieved in the course of half an hour, the cavalry remaining an hour longer.

In this affair we sustained no casualties, although by all accounts the enemy suffered severely from our destructive fire of canister. The body of Colonel Dantzler, Twenty-second South Carolina Regiment, was brought in by 2 men from Company L, and 3 cavalrymen

under charge of one of my sergeants, who also took charge of his personal effects, excepting a gold watch, which was taken from his person by one of the men of the Seventh Connecticut and afterward sent for by me and received by the captain in charge of the cavalry supports, all of which were forwarded from this post with the body.

I am, sir, most respectfully, yours,

WM. G. PRIDE,
Captain Company L, First Connecticut Artillery.

First Lieut. B. P. LEARNED,
Adjutant.

No. 87.

Report of Col. George W. Cole, Second U. S. Colored Cavalry (unattached), of operations May 13–15.

CAMP NEAR POINT OF ROCKS, *May* 23, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that having reported to Major-General Smith on the 13th, near Half-Way House, I was ordered to picket from the right of the infantry line to the river, and the line was traced for me by one of General Smith's staff by his order. I halted my command on the hill to the right of the general's headquarters for the night, and in the morning moved down to the edge of the woods, near the front of which, about 800 yards, was Heckman's brigade in line, and there bivouacked on the road leading direct to the front, about 300 yards from the edge of the woods on the right, between which and the James River were open, rolling fields, with a ravine in front, wooded, and scarcely passable. My picket-line commenced on the right of the infantry line and extended thence to the right and some to the rear to the river, and one post to watch the river and across, the left of my line resting on the edge of the woods and about 10 paces from the right infantry post. Thus it remained during Sunday, the 15th, varied by occasional shelling from a rebel boat on the river and rumors of a force across the river, which I at the time examined and found to be groundless, as often during the day. Finding my line did not seem to be observed by any officer of the day at about 3 o'clock I ordered Captain Tucker, Troop E (officer of the day for me), to place a movable sentinel also on post to the left, whose duty should be to see that full communication was kept up with the infantry line, and also ordered a picket reserve to be kept with a howitzer on the edge of the woods in the field, about 500 yards in rear of my left post, to sweep the field if need be and cover the falling back of my pickets. The remaining howitzer and men I kept at the bivouac on the road. Early in the morning I heard a furious firing and charge directly in the road in front of my camp and to the left of it. Expecting a cavalry dash down the road I had my men in line at the edge of the wood and my howitzer ready to sweep the road, and sent Captain Wilson and Lieutenant Howard to strengthen the reserve and have the line fall back as fast as the infantry line did. Captain Wilson found the cavalry picket-line unmoved in the fog and drew it back some 300 yards on the left, and fearing to lose the howitzer ordered Lieutenant Hughes, commanding it, to report to me, which, hearing

the charge and fighting on his left, he did not do, but moved back across the field half a mile. My command and howitzer, still keeping close to the woods, escaped harm from the enemy's shells, as they passed over mostly, except 1 horse killed and Surgeon Manly wounded. The left post of my line at this time captured 3 prisoners, lost in the fog. Here my line and command remained until after the fight was mostly over, when I was ordered by an aide to place my men back of the artillery and infantry in position in the field in my rear. I moved my command back 500 yards in cover of a ravine and waited orders. Captain ——, General Smith's aide, then ordered me to make a new line of pickets in rear of the creek and traced this line, which I did, moving my command on the hill in rear. Here I soon received orders to move to the front and did so, except the new picket-line, and reported in person to General Smith. Being ordered, charged one squadron in skirmish line on some houses near my former reserve station, failing to dislodge entirely some sharpshooters in the log buildings. Lost 1 man wounded and 1 horse shot. Having rallied, was ordered by Captain ——, aide to General Smith, to make a reconnaissance to the front and right; did so, and found about a regiment of rebel cavalry in line and close column beyond the ravine (formerly our front line) on the right. My skirmishers fired into them and skirmishing ten or fifteen minutes found my reserve shelled by the rebel boat. Again drew back to the line of infantry skirmishers. Then reported to General Weitzel, and as skirmishers, with some of the Eleventh Pennsylvania, covered the retiring column under considerable firing, but no damage was done. I omitted to mention that the two regiments after first sent down to General Heckman's support did not form line facing the enemy, but the river, and in answer to my inquiry as to why, said that two brigades of the enemy were on our right, and upon my assurance that my line was entire and far to our front, changed his base and fronted the woods, forming line of battle 200 or 300 yards in rear of my command. I think it was Colonel Drake's command. This line soon fell back to the edge of the field, near where I reported in person to General Smith for orders on the 16th. At no time was there more than 100, or thereabouts, of the enemy visible on the other side of the river, or any boats except the small gun-boat and two or three skiffs, nor for about a mile above our post, so far as the river was visible, no bridge nor sign of crossing.

I have the honor to submit the above report.

With sincere respect, yours,

GEO. W. COLE,
Colonel Second U. S. Colored Cavalry.

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 88.

Reports of General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, commanding Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, of operations May 16–June 2.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 16, 1864.

It is 8.30 o'clock. Our progress is very satisfactory. Ransom turned enemy's James River flank early this morning, and is driving him toward our right. We hold well on the right, and are

pressing the enemy back in front of our center, disabling and capturing some artillery. Ransom stormed breast-works; took 4 stand of colors and about 300 prisoners. Our losses, on the whole, appear not to be heavy. I think I can rely on Whiting's support. Distant firing now heard in direction of Petersburg.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General BRAXTON BRAGG.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 16, 1864.

It is now 9.45 o'clock. Ransom has been delayed to replenish ammunition. When he comes up I will push the enemy. For future movements we want ordnance supplies of all sorts, especially for infantry, forwarded instantly. I hope soon to make a junction with Whiting. Our captures of prisoners are considerable, with some artillery; numbers not yet known.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 18, 1864.

Copy of telegram dated Drewry's Bluff, May 16, 1864, received May 16, 1864, viz:

Since my dispatch of 8.30 a. m., announcing the success of General Ransom on our left, General Hoke's division, supported by General Colquitt's reserve, attacking the enemy in force on the right, has driven him back, capturing several siege field pieces and many prisoners. Both of these commands have acted gallantly, and with brilliant success.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General BRAGG.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 17, 1864.

P. S.—I send a supplementary dispatch to complete the telegram received of yesterday's battle. Please have published, as it is due to Hoke and Colquitt.

Respectfully submitted to the Adjutant-General for his information.

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 16, 1864.

GENERAL: It is now 1.15 o'clock. No material change since last dispatch. We occupy the outer lines. The enemy still in our front with open ground between. We are preparing for a combined attack by reorganization of commands somewhat scattered by frequent detachments and thick woods. Some of the brigades are much cut up. The position of things is too uncertain as yet for me to advance any such detachment of force to the interior as you propose. I hear nothing yet of Whiting's movements. I am on the turnpike at outer line forts.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General B. BRAGG,
Commanding General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 16, 1864.

GENERAL: It is 5.45 p. m. The enemy have been driven from our right to south side of Proctor's Creek and east of railroad; also from our immediate vicinity on turnpike. I am organizing combined attack on line of Proctor's Creek, and hope good results. The movement has commenced, though late. We shall occupy the works on hill west of railroad. Nothing positive as to position of Whiting save the knowledge that he was at Port Walthall Station this morning at 10 o'clock.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General B. BRAGG,
Commanding General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 18, 1864.

Copy of telegram dated Drewry's, May 16, 1864, 9.30 p. m., received May 16, 1864, 10.50 p. m., viz:

The approach of darkness made it imprudent to execute this evening the plan set forth in my dispatch of 5.45 p. m. It will be prosecuted without variation, commencing at daylight to-morrow and I hope to have the co-operation of General Whiting. Have sent several dispatches to urge it.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General BRAGG.

Respectfully submitted to the Adjutant-General for his information.

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 18, 1864.

Copy of telegram dated Hancock's house, 2¼ miles north of Walthall Junction, via Drewry's Bluff, May 17, 1864, 11 p. m., received May 17, 1864, viz:

The enemy has retired to his lines across the Neck; our forces are in position in his front. His lines of skirmishers will be driven about daybreak to-morrow to determine location and strength of his works. A battery of field rifled pieces has been ordered to be constructed at Howlett's to command the James River, so as to prevent his passage of transports. The junction with Whiting's forces was made about midday. They formed my right wing.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

General BRAGG.

Respectfully submitted to the Adjutant-General for his information.

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *June* 2, 1864—9 a. m.

GENERAL: Enemy's advanced line of rifle-pits near Ware Bottom Church were taken this morning with about 100 prisoners from Seventh Connecticut. Our loss is trifling.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

General B. BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
Swift Creek, Va., June 10, 1864.

GENERAL: While we were hurriedly assembling by fragments an army weak in numbers, and wanting the cohesive force of previous organization and association, the enemy, operating from his fortified base at Bermuda Hundred Neck, had destroyed much of the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, and occupied the main lines of communication from the capital southward, and menaced its river gate (Drewry's Bluff) and south-side land defenses with a formidable army and fleet. In these conditions the possession of our line of communication southward became the main point of contest. To wrest it from the enemy I selected a course which promised the most fertile results, that of capturing or destroying his army in its actual position, after cutting him off from his base of operations; or, failing in this, of robbing him of future power to control or obstruct our communications by driving him before our front and locking him up in his fortified camp at Bermuda Hundred Neck.

Our army was organized into three divisions (right, left, and reserve), under Major-Generals Hoke and Ransom and Brigadier-General Colquitt. The general direction of the roads and adjacent river was north and south, the general alignment of both armies east and west. Our left wing (Ransom) lay behind the trenches on Kingsland Creek, which runs an easterly course, not far in front of Drewry's Bluff. Our right wing (Hoke) occupied the intermediate line of fortifications from Fort Stevens, crossing the turnpike to the railroad. Colquitt's reserve, in rear of Hoke, centered at the turnpike. The cavalry were posted on our flanks and in reserve, and the artillery distributed among the divisions.

A column from Petersburg, under Major-General Whiting, had been directed to proceed to Swift Creek, on the turnpike, over 3 miles from Petersburg and 9 from my lines, and was under orders to advance at daybreak to Port Walthall Junction, 3 miles nearer. The line of the enemy's forces, under Butler, comprising the corps of Gillmore and W. F. Smith (Tenth and Eighteenth), was generally parallel to our intermediate line of works, somewhat curved, concentric, and exterior to our own. They held our own outer line of works, crossing the turnpike half a mile in our front. Their line of breast-works and intrenchments increased in strength with its progress westward and northward; its right and weakest point was in the edge of William Gregory's woods, about half a mile west of James River. The line of hostile breast-works from their right flank continued westwardly, intersecting the turnpike near our outer line of fortifications. Near this point of intersection at Charles Friend's farm was advantageously posted a force of the enemy throughout the day's struggle, and here are said to have been the headquarters of Generals Butler and Smith. Butler's lines thence following partly the course of our outer works, crossed them and ran westwardly through fields and woods until after crossing the railroad, when his extreme left inclined to the north.

With the foregoing data I determined upon the following plan: That our left wing, turning and hurled upon Butler's weak right, should with crushing force double it back on its center, thus interposing an easterly barrier between Butler and his base; that our right wing should, simultaneously with its skirmishers, and afterward in force, as soon as the left became fully engaged, advance and occupy the enemy to prevent his re-enforcing his right and thus

form his northern barrier, without, however, prematurely seeking to force him far back before our left could completely outflank him and our Petersburg column close up on his rear; and, finally, that the Petersburg column, marching to the sound of heaviest firing, should interpose a southern barrier to his retreat. Butler, thus environed by three walls of fire, with his defeated troops, could have no resource against substantial capture or destruction, except in an attempt at partial and hazardous escape westward, away from his base, trains, or supplies. Two difficulties alone might impede or defeat the success of this plan. One was a possible stubborn and effective resistance by the enemy, in virtue of his superior numbers. Another (probably a graver one) existed as to the efficient, rapid handling of a fragmentary army like ours, so hastily assembled and organized—half the brigades without general officers, some of the troops unacquainted with their commanders and neighbors, staff officers unknown to each other, &c. The moral force which tells so significantly of the unity which springs from old association was entirely wanting, and from these causes, generally so productive of confusion and entanglement, great inconvenience arose. On the other hand, I reckoned on the advantages of being all in readiness at daybreak, with short distances over which to operate, a long day before me to maneuver in, plain, direct routes, and simplicity in the movements to be executed.

Accordingly, at 10.45 a. m. on May 15, preparatory information and orders were forwarded to Major-General Whiting, then at Petersburg, 12 miles from me, with instructions to move his force to Swift Creek, 3 miles nearer, during the night, and at daybreak next morning to proceed to Port Walthall Junction, about 3 miles still nearer. These instructions were duly received by that officer, and were as follows:

I shall attack enemy in my front to-morrow at daybreak by river road, to cut him off from his Bermuda base. You will take up your position to-night at Swift Creek with Wise's, Martin's, Dearing's [brigades], and two regiments of Colquitt's brigade, with about twenty field pieces, under Colonel Jones.

At daybreak you will march to Port Walthall Junction, and when you hear an engagement in your front you will advance boldly and rapidly by the shortest road in the direction of heaviest firing, to attack enemy in rear or flank. You will protect your advance and flanks with Dearing's cavalry, taking necessary precautions to distinguish friends from foes. Please communicate this to General Hill. This revokes all former orders of movements.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

P. S.—I have just received a telegram from General Bragg, informing me that he has sent you orders to join me at this place. You need not do so, but follow to the letter the above instructions.

G. T. B.

In the early afternoon I delivered in person to the other division commanders assembled the following circular instructions of battle, with additional oral instructions to Major-General Ransom, that while driving the enemy he should promptly occupy with a brigade the crossing of Proctor's Creek by the river road, which was the enemy's shortest line of retreat to Bermuda Hundred Neck:

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VIRGINIA,
Drewry's Farm, May 15, 1864.

GENERAL: The following instructions for battle to-morrow are communicated for your information and action:

The purpose of the movement is to cut off the enemy from his base of operations at Bermuda Hundred, and capture or destroy him in his present position. To this

end we shall attack and turn by the river road his right flank, now resting on James River, while his center and left flank are kept engaged to prevent him from re-enforcing his right flank. Major-General Ransom's division will to-night take position, the most favorable for attack, on the enemy's right flank—to be made by him at daybreak to-morrow morning. His skirmishers will drive back vigorously those of the enemy in his front, and will be followed closely by his line of battle, which will, at the proper time, pivot on its right flank, so as to take the enemy in flank and rear. He will form in two lines of battle and will use his battalion of artillery to the best advantage. Colonel Dunovant's regiment of cavalry will move with this division under the direction of General Ransom. Major-General Hoke's division, now in the trenches on the right of the position herein assigned to General Ransom, will, at daylight, engage the enemy with a heavy line of skirmishers, and will hold the rest of his forces in hand ready to attack with vigor the enemy's line in his front as soon as he shall find it wavering before his skirmishers, or so soon as Ransom's line of battle shall have become fairly engaged with the enemy. General Hoke will form in two lines of battle, 400 yards apart, in front of his trenches at the proper time, and in such manner as not to delay his forward movement. He will use his battalion of artillery to the best advantage. Colonel Baker's regiment of cavalry will move in conjunction with Hoke's division, so as to protect his right flank. He will receive more definite instructions from Major-General Hoke. Colonel Shingler's regiment of cavalry will move with the reserve division.

The division commanded by Brigadier-General Colquitt will constitute the reserve, and will to-night form in column by brigades in rear of Hoke's present position, the center of each brigade resting on the turnpike. The division will be massed under cover of the hills now occupied by Hoke's troops, so as to be sheltered at the outset from the enemy's fire in front. During the movement the head of the reserve column will be kept at a distance of about 500 yards from Hoke's second line of battle. As soon as practicable, the intervals between the brigades of the reserve division will be maintained at from 200 to 300 yards. The reserve artillery, under General Colquitt, will follow along the turnpike about 300 yards in rear of the last brigade. He will use it to the best advantage. Simultaneously with these movements, Major-General Whiting will move with his division from Petersburg along the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike, and attack the enemy's flank and rear.

The movements above indicated must be made with all possible vigor and celerity.

The generals commanding divisions and Colonels Baker and Shingler, commanding cavalry, will report at these headquarters at 6 p. m. to-day.

In the mean time they will give all necessary instructions for providing their respective commands with 60 rounds of ammunition issued to each man, and at least 20 rounds for each in reserve. They will cause their commands to be supplied with two days' cooked rations.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

TO DIVISION COMMANDERS.

Ransom moved at 4.45 a. m., being somewhat delayed by a dense fog, which lasted several hours after dawn and occasioned some embarrassment. His division consisted of the following brigades, in the order mentioned, commencing from the left: Gracie's, Kemper's (commanded by Colonel Terry), Barton's (under Colonel Fry), and Colonel Lewis' (Hoke's old brigade).

He was soon engaged, carrying, at 6 a. m., with some loss, the enemy's line of breast-works in his front, his troops moving splendidly forward to the assault and capturing 5 stand of colors and some 500 prisoners. The brigades most heavily engaged were Gracie's and Kemper's, opposed to the enemy's right, the former turning his flank. He then halted to form, reported his loss heavy, and troops scattered by the fog, his ammunition short, and asked for a brigade from the reserve. Colquitt's brigade was sent him at 6.30 a. m., with orders for its return when it ceased to be indispensable. Before either ammunition or the reserve brigade had arrived, he reported the enemy driving Hoke's left, and sent the right regiment of Lewis' brigade forward at double-quick toward the point of supposed danger. This held the enemy long enough for the reserve brigade to

arrive, charge, and drive him back from the front of our left center, where the affair occurred, over and along the works to the turnpike.

It will be seen in a subsequent part of this report that one of Hagood's advance regiments had unexpectedly come in contact with the enemy and been ordered back, it not being contemplated to press at this point until Ransom should swing round his left, as directed in the battle order. This possibly originated Ransom's impression as to the situation of Hoke's left, which had, in fact, steadily maintained its proper position. At 7.15 a. m. Colquitt's brigade, of the reserve, was recalled from Ransom, and a slight modification of the original movement was made to relieve Hoke, on whose front the enemy had been allowed to mass his forces by the inaction of the left. Ransom was ordered to flank the enemy's right by changing the front of his right brigade to support it by another in echelon, to advance a third toward Proctor's Creek, and to hold a fourth in reserve. This modification was intended to be temporary, and the original plan was to be fully carried out on the seizure of the river road and Proctor's Creek crossing. In proceeding to execute this order, Ransom found the reserve brigade engaged and his own troops moving by the right flank toward the firing at the center. He therefore sent Barton's brigade back instead of Colquitt's, and reported a necessity to straighten and reform his lines in the old position near the lines he had stormed. Here his infantry rested during the greater part of the day. Dunovant's cavalry, dismounted, being thrown forward as skirmishers toward a small force which occupied a ridge in the edge of George Gregory's woods, north of Proctor's Creek. This force, with an insignificant body of cavalry, believed to be negroes, and a report of threatening gun-boats which came some hours earlier, as since ascertained, were the only menace to our left. At 10 a. m. I withheld an order for Ransom to move until further arrangements should be made, for the following reasons: The right was heavily engaged; all of the reserve had been detached right and left at different times; the silence of Whiting's guns, which had been heard a short time about 8 a. m., gave reasonable hope that he had met no resistance and would soon be on. A dispatch had been sent to Whiting at 9 a. m., which was repeated at 9.30 a. m., to "Press on and press over everything in your front, and the day will be complete;" and Ransom not only reported the enemy in strong force in his front, but expressed the opinion that the safety of his command would be compromised by an advance.

On the right Hoke had early advanced his skirmishers and opened with his artillery. The fog and other causes temporarily delayed the advance of his line of battle. When he finally moved forward he soon became hotly engaged and handled his command with judgment and energy. Hagood and Johnson were thrown forward with a section of Eshleman's Washington Artillery, and found a heavy force of the enemy, with six or eight pieces of artillery, occupying the salient of the outer line of works on the turnpike and his own defensive lines. Our artillery engaged at very short range, disabling some of the enemy's guns and blowing up two limbers. Another section of the same command opened from the right of the turnpike. They both held their positions, though with heavy loss, until their ammunition was spent, when they were relieved by an equal number of pieces from the reserve artillery, under Major Owen. Hagood with great vigor and dash drove the enemy from the outer lines in his front, capturing a number of prisoners, and, in

conjunction with Johnson, five pieces of artillery—three 20-pounder Parrotts and two fine Napoleons. He then took position in the works, his left regiment being thrown forward by Hoke to connect with Ransom's right. In advancing, this regiment encountered the enemy behind a second line of works in the woods, with abatis interlaced with wire. Attack at that point not being contemplated it was ordered back to the line of battle, but not before its intrepid advance had brought on it considerable loss. This circumstance has been referred to before as the occasion of a mistake by Ransom. Johnson meanwhile had been heavily engaged. The line of the enemy bent around his right flank, subjecting his brigade for a time to fire in flank and front. With admirable firmness he repulsed frequent assaults of the enemy moving in masses against his right and rear. Leader, officers, and men alike displayed their fitness for the trial to which they were subjected. Among many instances of heroism I cannot forbear to mention that Lieutenant Waggoner, of the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment, went alone through a storm of fire and pulled down a white flag which a small isolated body of our men had raised, receiving a wound in the act.

The brigade, holding its ground nobly, lost more than a fourth of its entire number. Two regiments of the reserve were sent up to its support, but were less effective than they should have been, through a mistake of the officer posting them. Hoke also sent two regiments from Clingman to protect Johnson's flank. These partially partook of the same mistake, being posted in the woods where the moral and material effect of their presence was lost. I now ordered Hoke to press forward his right for the relief of his right center, and he advanced Clingman with his remaining two regiments, and Corse with his brigade. They drove the enemy with spirit, suffering some loss, but the gap between Clingman and the troops on his left induced him to retire his command to prevent being flanked and reform it in the intermediate lines. Thus Corse became isolated, and learning from his officers that masses were forming against his right flank, he withdrew some distance back, but not quite so far as his original position. These two brigades were not afterward engaged, though they went to the front—Corse about one hour after he fell back, and Clingman at about 2.15 p. m. The enemy did not reoccupy the ground from which they drove him before they retired.

In front of Hagood and Johnson the fighting was stubborn and prolonged. The enemy, slowly retiring from Johnson's right, took strong position on the ridge in front of Proctor's Creek, massing near the turnpike and occupying advantageous ground at the house and grove of Charles Friend. At length Johnson, having brushed the enemy from his right flank in the woods, with some assistance from the Washington Artillery, and cleared his front, rested his troops in the shelter of the outer works. One of the captured pieces having opened on the enemy's masses, he finally fell back behind the woods and ridge at Proctor's Creek, though his skirmish line continued the engagement some hours longer.

Further movements were here suspended to wait communication from Whiting or the sound of his approach, and to reorganize the troops which had become more or less disorganized. Brief firing at about 1.45 p. m. gave some hope of his proximity. I waited in vain. The firing heard was probably an encounter between Dearing and the enemy's rear guard. Dearing had been ordered by Whiting

to communicate with me, but, unsupported as he was by infantry or artillery, he was unable to do so, except by sending a detachment by a circuitous route, which reached me after the work of the day was closed. At 4 p. m. all hope of Whiting's approach was gone, and I reluctantly abandoned so much of my plan as contemplated more than a vigorous pursuit of Butler and driving him to his fortified base. To effect this, I resumed my original formation, and directed General Hoke to send two brigades forward along the Court-House road, to take the enemy in flank, and establish enfilading batteries in front of the heights west of the railroad. The formation of our line was checked by a heavy and prolonged storm of rain. Meanwhile the enemy opened a severe fire, which was soon silenced by our artillery. Before we were ready to advance darkness approached, and, upon consultation with several of my subordinate commanders, it was deemed imprudent to attack, considering the probability of serious obstacles and the proximity of Butler's intrenched camp. I therefore put the army in position for the night, and sent instructions to Whiting to join our right at the railroad in the morning.

During the night the enemy retired to the fortified line of his present camp, leaving in our hands some 1,400 prisoners, 5 pieces of artillery, and 5 stand of colors. He now rests there hemmed by our lines, which have since from time to time been advanced with every skirmish, and now completely cover the southern communications of the capital, thus securing one of the principal objects of the attack. The more glorious results anticipated were lost by the hesitation of the left wing and the premature halt of the Petersburg column before obstacles in neither case sufficient to have deterred from the execution of the movements prescribed.

Too much praise cannot be bestowed on the officers and men who fought the battle of Drewry's Bluff for the ardor and intrepidity displayed by them whenever called upon to meet the foe, regardless of his advantage in numbers and position. I shall take pleasure in presenting the names of those who most distinguished themselves as soon as the detailed reports of subordinate commanders shall have been received at these headquarters. The same opportunity will be taken to mention the names and services of those members of my personal and general staff who were present during the battle, and of those officers who, belonging to other commands, kindly volunteered their services on that occasion. The intelligent zeal and activity of all these officers, in transmitting orders and conveying information from one portion of the field to the other, contributed largely to the success of the day.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant-General, Richmond, Va.

[Indorsement.]

JUNE 23, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President, who will be interested by the explanations afforded in this report. They excite serious surprise in my mind.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
June 14, 1864.

GENERAL: In forwarding my report of the battle of Drewry's Bluff, May 16, it seems necessary that it should be accompanied by an explanation of the apparent inconsistency of its conclusion with my Special Orders, No. 11, May 17, 1864, relieving the commander of the left wing and commending in high terms his conduct of his command in battle. A copy of that order is annexed.* When it was issued I still assumed that he had properly felt and estimated the obstacles and hostile force reported by him in his immediate front, and that his reports were to be accepted as maturely considered and substantially accurate. Subsequent investigation, necessarily requiring time, has, I regret to say, brought me to a different conviction.

Respectfully, your obedient servant.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

General S. COOPER,
Adjt. and Insp. Gen., C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.

ADDENDA.

List of killed, wounded, and missing in the engagement near Drewry's Bluff on Monday, May 16, 1864.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	
RANSOM'S DIVISION.										
Barton's brigade, Col. B. D. Fry	5	38	43	10	282	292		10	10	345
Grace's brigade, Brigadier-General Grace	2	32	34	17	259	276		4	4	314
Kemper's brigade										
Hoke's brigade, Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis	4	21	25	9	128	137	1	24	25	187
Battalion of artillery, Lieutenant-Colonel Lightfoot		1	1	1	30	31				32
HOKE'S DIVISION.										
Corse's brigade, Brigadier-General Corse										
Clingman's brigade, Brigadier-General Clingman	3	27	30	9	175	184	3	30	33	237
Johnson's brigade, Brigadier-General Johnson	5	46	51	18	186	204	6	60	66	319
Hagood's brigade, Brigadier-General Hagood	8	110	118	34	461	495	4	47	51	664
Battalion Washington Artillery, Lieutenant-Colonel Eshleman		9	9	2	18	20		1	1	30
COLQUITT'S DIVISION.										
Colquitt's brigade		11	11	17	129	146				157
Ransom's brigade	4	27	31	8	140	148	2	24	26	205
Battalion of artillery, Major Owen		1	1	1	7	8				9
7th South Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Shingler		1	1					3	3	4
51. North Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Baker								3	3	3
5th South Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Dunovant										

*Not found with this paper; but see order of May 17, relieving General Ransom, p. 1017.

This list is necessarily incomplete, from the fact that before the reports could be made the commands whose columns are left blank were ordered from the department.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
June 1, 1864.

List of prisoners captured in the battle of Drewry's Bluff, May 16, 1864.

Sent to—	Officers.	Men.	Total.
Richmond	42	1,174	1,216
Petersburg	1	171	172
Total	43	1,345	1,388

The above list is incomplete, from the fact that the prisoners were hurried off to Richmond and Petersburg before their names could be taken down, or their companies, regiments, ranks, &c.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 10, 1864.

Report of ordnance and ordnance stores captured at Drewry's Bluff and Ware Bottom Church.

	General Hagood's brigade.	General Ransom's brigade.	Collected by order of Colonel Waddy, chief ordnance officer.
Class 1.—Ordnance:			
12 pounder Napoleon guns, brass	2		
20 pounder Parrott guns, rifled	3		
Class 6.—Small-arms:			
Muskets, caliber .69		16	
Rifles, caliber .57		16	
All descriptions			63,936
Class 8.—Ammunition,[b] caliber .57 and .58			42,000

[a] Exchanged on the field for old muskets left, the men being unable to bring them off the field.

[b] Besides the ammunition reported each brigade filled its cartridge boxes from loose cartridges on the field, making the captured ammunition amount to from 90,000 to 50,000 rounds.

Respectfully submitted.

J. R. WADDY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Ordnance Officer.

MAY 28, 1864.

FORCES IN THE RICHMOND AND PETERSBURG LINES.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD.*

RANSOM'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. ROBERT RANSOM, Jr.

Gracie's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ARCHIBALD GRACIE, Jr.

41st Alabama, —— ——.
43d Alabama, —— ——.
59th Alabama, —— ——.
60th Alabama, —— ——.

Kemper's Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM R. TERRY.

1st Virginia, Maj. George F. Norton.
3d Virginia, —— ——.
7th Virginia, Capt. William O. Fry.
11th Virginia, —— ——.
24th Virginia, —— ——.

Barton's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. SETH M. BARTON.

9th Virginia, Col. James J. Phillips.
14th Virginia, Col. William White.
38th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Joseph R. Cabell.
53d Virginia, Col. William R. Aylett.
57th Virginia, Col. Clement R. Fontaine.

Hoke's (old) Brigade.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM G. LEWIS.

6th North Carolina, —— ——.
21st North Carolina, —— ——.
54th North Carolina, —— ——.
57th North Carolina, —— ——.
1st North Carolina Battalion, ——

Artillery Battalion.

Lieut. Col. C. E. LIGHTFOOT.

Hankins' (Virginia) battery.
Rives' (Virginia) battery.
Thornton's (Virginia) battery.

HOKE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. ROBERT F. HOKE.

Corse's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. MONTGOMERY D. CORSE.

15th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Emmett M. Morrison.
17th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Arthur Herbert.
18th Virginia, Lieut. Col. George C. Cabell.
29th Virginia, —— ——.
30th Virginia, Col. A. T. Harrison.

Clingman's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS L. CLINGMAN.

8th North Carolina, —— ——.
31st North Carolina, —— ——.
51st North Carolina, —— ——.
61st North Carolina, —— ——.

Johnson's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. BUSHROD R. JOHNSON.
Col. JOHN S. FULTON.

17th Tennessee, } Col. R. H. Keeble.
23d Tennessee, }
25th Tennessee, } Col. John S. Fulton.
} Lieut. Col. John L.
44th Tennessee, } McEwen, jr.
63d Tennessee, Col. Abraham Fulkerson.

Hagood's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHNSON HAGOOD.

11th South Carolina, Col. F. Hay Gantt.
21st South Carolina, Col. Robert F. Graham.
25th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. John G. Pressley.
27th South Carolina, Col. Peter C. Gaillard.
7th South Carolina Battalion, Maj. James H. Rion.

* Command known as the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia. Maj. Gen. George E. Pickett commanded First Military District, at Petersburg. The roster represents Beauregard's command as it stood on or about May 5 to 10.

Unattached.

51st North Carolina, Col. Hector McKethan.

Artillery Battalion.

Lieut. Col. B. F. ESHLEMAN.

Martin's (Virginia) battery.
Owen's (Louisiana) battery.
Payne's battery.*

COLQUITT'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED H. COLQUITT.

Colquitt's Brigade.

6th Georgia, Col. John T. Lofton.
19th Georgia, ——— ———.
23d Georgia, Col. M. R. Ballenger.
27th Georgia, Lieut. Col. James Gardner.
28th Georgia, ——— ———.

Ransom's Brigade.

24th North Carolina, Col. William J. Clarke.
25th North Carolina, Col. Henry M. Rutledge.
35th North Carolina, Col. John G. Jones.
49th North Carolina, Col. Lee M. McAfee.
56th North Carolina, Col. Paul F. Faison.

Artillery Battalion.

Maj. WILLIAM M. OWEN.

Cavalry.

3d North Carolina, Col. John A. Baker.
7th South Carolina, Col. W. Pinkney Shingler.

WHITING'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM H. C. WHITING.

Wise's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE.

26th Virginia, Col. Powhatan R. Page.
34th Virginia, ——— ———.
46th Virginia, ——— ———.
59th Virginia, Col. William B. Tabb.

Martin's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES G. MARTIN.

[illegible]th North Carolina, ——— ———.
[illegible]1 North Carolina, ——— ———.
6[illegible]th North Carolina, ——— ———.

Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. JAMES DEARING.

7th Confederate, Col. V. H. Taliaferro.
8th Georgia, Col. Joel R. Griffin.
4th North Carolina, Col. Dennis D. Ferebee.
65th North Carolina, Col. George N. Folk.

Artillery Battalion.†

Maj. JOHN P. W. READ.

Blount's battery.
Caskie's battery.
Macon's battery.
Marshall's battery.

*Improvised and manned by men from Johnson's (Tennessee) brigade.
†38th Battalion Virginia Artillery.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Elliott's Brigade.

Col. STEPHEN ELLIOTT, Jr.

61st North Carolina, ——— ———.
Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion, ——— ———.

*Hunton's Brigade.**

Brig. Gen. EPPA HUNTON.

8th Virginia, Capt. Henry C. Bowie.
19th Virginia, Capt. James G. Woodson.
25th Virginia (battalion), Lieut. Col. Wyatt M. Elliott
32d Virginia, Col. Edgar B. Montague.
56th Virginia, Capt. John Richardson.
42d Virginia Cavalry (battalion), Lieut. Col. William T. Robins.

*Maryland Line.**

Col. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON.

2d Maryland Infantry, Capt. James P. Crane.
1st Maryland Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Ridgely Brown.
1st Maryland Battery, Capt. William F. Dement.
2d Maryland Battery, Capt. William H. Griffin.
4th Maryland Battery, ——— ———.

*Engineers.**

1st Regiment, Company D, Capt. H. C. Derrick.

RICHMOND DEFENSES.*

Col. WALTER H. STEVENS.

First Division, Inner Line.	*Second Division, Inner Line.*
Lieut. Col. JOHN W. ATKINSON.	Lieut. Col. JAMES HOWARD.
10th Virginia Heavy Artillery Battalion, Maj. James O. Hensley.	18th Virginia Heavy Artillery Battalion, Maj. Mark B. Hardin.
19th Virginia Heavy Artillery Battalion, Maj. N. R. Cary.	20th Virginia Heavy Artillery Battalion, Maj. James E. Robertson.

Unattached.

Louisiana Guard Artillery, Capt. Charles A. Green.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF.*

Lieut. Col. J. M. MAURY.

Goochland (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Jonathan Talley.
James City (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Lucien W. Richardson.
Lunenburg (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. C. Tacitus Allen.
Pamunkey (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Andrew J. Jones.

DREWRY'S BLUFF.*

Maj. FRANCIS W. SMITH.

Johnston (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Branch J. Epes.
Neblett (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Wiley G. Coleman.
Southside (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. John W. Drewry
United (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Thomas Kevill.

*On May 10 belonged to Ransom's command.

CHAFFIN'S FARM.*

Maj. ALEXANDER W. STARK.

Mathews (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. A. D. Armistead.
McComas (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. David A. French.

ARTILLERY.

Col. HILARY P. JONES.

Moseley's Battalion.	*Coit's Battalion.*
Lieut. Col. EDGAR F. MOSELEY.	Maj. JAMES C. COIT.
Cumming's (North Carolina) battery.	Bradford's (Mississippi) battery.
Miller's (North Carolina) battery.	Kelly's (South Carolina) battery
Slaten's (Georgia) battery.	Pegram's (Virginia) battery.
Young's (Virginia) battery.	Wright's (Virginia) battery.

Unassigned.

Sturdivant's (Virginia) battery.

No. 89.

Report of Maj. Gen. Daniel H. Hill, C. S. Army, of operations May 16.

CAMP NEAR WALTHALL JUNCTION, *May* 26, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the following order:

It is the desire of the commanding general that you render to these headquarters as soon as practicable an official report of the movements of the command of Major-General Whiting from his line on Swift Creek in this direction as ordered by these headquarters, including the engagement with the enemy while en route.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

On the morning of the 16th instant, at General Whiting's desire, I accompanied his command, consisting of the brigades of Wise and Martin and Dearing's cavalry. Swift Creek was crossed by the whole command about sunrise, and soon after the Yankee pickets were encountered on Timberry Creek. General Whiting then requested me to accompany the advance on the turnpike, while he attended to the movements of Martin's brigade on the right. I urged that Dearing's cavalry should be brought back and move on our left flank, as I had originally proposed, to gain the rear of the Yankee cavalry on the pike. This was done, but Dearing gained the point just in time to see the escape of the negro cavalry. I had no official position, but General Wise promptly and cordially carried out all my suggestions as though they were responsible orders. When we neared Walthall Junction his brigade was drawn up in line of battle and a battery of Read's battalion opened upon some woods in front, not merely to feel the Yankees, but to inform the commanding general of our presence. Wise's brigade was now ordered forward to the railroad cut, and advanced with all the precision of a parade day and gained that point. Blount's battery was placed in the field on

* On May 10 belonged to Ransom's command.

our left, and soon silenced the Yankee battery, and their column was plainly seen retreating toward Ware Bottom Church, leaving but about a regiment deployed as skirmishers. I advised that our troops should be thrown across Bake-House Creek, seize the heights on the opposite side, and try to penetrate as far as the cross-roads near Mrs. Kitty Ashbrooke's. The heights were gained and the troops halted. With Colonel Jones, of the artillery, and one courier I rode up to Coleman's, and from that point could see a regiment of Yankees in the woods near Hancock's house.

On my return General Wise told me that the cavalry reported a heavy column of Yankees coming down the pike and trying to turn his left. I told him that if the report were true he had better make his fight in the railroad cut, with Bake-House Creek in his front, as this creek was almost impassable, from the thick and tangled undergrowth on its banks. This movement he approved; but, to my surprise, although I had expressly advised leaving our line of skirmishers on the crest to the north of the creek, I found everything retiring on the Swift Creek road. I inquired the meaning of this, when General Wise told me that he had been ordered by General Whiting in person to retire to a line in rear to be designated by him. I went to General Whiting and succeeded in getting the troops sent back to the railroad cut, and again repeated the suggestion to develop the Yankees' strength by a strong line of skirmishers. A personal reconnaissance on the left proved that the cavalry report, as usual, was erroneous. I wrote to General Whiting that there was not more than a small regiment of Yankees in our front, and that it ought to be brushed away immediately. I then sought General Martin at Craig's house. While at this place General Whiting rode up and directed General Martin to withdraw his skirmishers. I said to him, "General Whiting, you cannot occupy this place if you withdraw your skirmishers." He replied, "You don't think that I intend to remain here?" I answered that I did not know what his intentions were. He then ordered General Martin to withdraw his brigade as soon as the skirmishers got in. General Martin suggested that the troops should be retired before the skirmishers came in. General Whiting said, "It makes no difference; there is no enemy in our front."

Some half hour later I met General Whiting on the turnpike. Wagons, ambulances, artillery, and infantry were all jammed together on that road. I told him that the Yankee regiment, which could still be seen in our front, might make terrible havoc of this confused mass. He asked what he ought to do. I replied that I had written to him two hours before to press the Yankees. He said, "I did not receive your note." Fearing that General Whiting might be embarrassed by the seeming divided responsibility of my presence, and feeling that I could accomplish nothing more, I retired to Dunlap's house, when I learned that the troops were ordered to recross Swift Creek.

It is due to General Whiting to say that I saw no evidence of alleged intoxication; that he exposed himself gallantly on the field, and that his errors were acknowledged with a frankness, generosity, and magnanimity above all praise.

Respectfully submitted.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

Capt. JOHN M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 90.

Report of Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., C. S. Army, commanding Department of Richmond, of operations May 16.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
May 23, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following very brief report of the actions of the division under my command in the battle of the 16th instant below Drewry's Bluff:

The division was composed of Gracie's, Hoke's, Barton's, and Kemper's brigades, commanded, respectively, by Brigadier-General Gracie, Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis, Colonel Fry, and Colonel Terry.

In compliance with orders from your headquarters, at 2 o'clock on the morning of the 16th I began to move the troops from behind the trenches next to Drewry's Bluff, and by a little after daylight had the division in two lines of battle south of and close to Kingsland Creek, the right resting just to the left of Fort Stevens and extending some 200 yards to the left of river road. The second line was but about 50 yards in rear of the first, but as the movement was made the distance was increased to 200 or 300. Gracie occupied the left of the first line and Lewis the right; Terry the left of the second and Fry the right. Colonel Dunovant's cavalry was thrown near the river, and Lieutenant-Colonel Lightfoot's artillery was but a short distance in rear of the second line of infantry.

So soon as the dispositions were completed, movements being retarded by almost perfect obscurity of the densest fog, the advance was ordered about 4.45 o'clock. Very quickly the strong line of our skirmishers [became] engaged and the enemy was pressed as vigorously as possible across the open field in front and to the right of Willis' house, and after a little over one hour's stubborn fighting the enemy's rifle-pits and breast-works were carried about 100 yards inside the woods and in front of the fields above mentioned. These works ran along a small road leading from the river road to the turnpike. After taking the works I found that from the perfect inability to see anything the lines had become confused and required readjusting, and that ammunition had to be replenished throughout. These causes occasioned considerable delay, and in order not to retard the movements directed in the order for battle, I sent to General Beauregard for fresh troops to continue the pressure upon the enemy. Before these arrived and before we had gotten ammunition, the enemy made a vigorous and telling assault upon Hoke's left, driving his men hastily toward the intermediate line to the right of Fort Stevens. At once Colonel Lewis was ordered to throw the only regiment he had in hand at the double-quick to that point, which was handsomely done, and he engaged the enemy long enough to allow Colquitt's brigade, of the reserve, to arrive, and it was at once thrown to the same point and rapidly attacked and drove back the enemy. Arrangements were at once made to perfect our line, and so soon as it was the order to advance was given. Just at this juncture I received orders from General Beauregard to send Colquitt's brigade to the right, as it was badly needed there. This brigade being now in the front line and engaging the enemy, it could not be detached, and I ordered Barton's to the right in its stead. The directions given for the second advance were to keep touched to the right, joining Hoke's division, intending to throw forward the left so soon as the woods should be cleared.

In moving to the right to hurry Barton's brigade in that direction, I discovered that my line was moving by a flank to the right, and that Colquitt's and Lewis' brigades had already lapped upon Hoke's division. Inquiry was made and General Hoke replied (he being near me) that he had been using these brigades to good purpose. Report was at once sent by a staff officer to General Beauregard as to what had happened, and the whole line had to be moved again to the left and take position just in front of the enemy's rifle-pits and breast-works, which had been recently taken. After re-establishing this line, which was about 10 o'clock, I reported in person to General Beauregard, and he directed a halt for further arrangements. The infantry held the last position throughout the day. The artillery, under Colonel Lightfoot, was used when it seemed it could be done with effect, but it acted a small part. Colonel Dunovant with his cavalry was well to our left and front, and his regiment did admirable service.

The conduct of the troops throughout was unexceptionable, but the brigades of General Gracie and Colonel Terry deserve special notice; also the regiment of Colonel Lewis, which he so gallantly led at the double-quick against the enemy. It has been impossible to get reports from subordinates, and I trust this meager outline may answer for immediate requirements. In my full report I shall endeavor to do justice to the gallant men it was my privilege to command on that occasion.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

Col. SAMUEL W. MELTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of N. C. and Southern Va.

P. S.—In taking the breast-works, 5 stand of colors, 1 brigadier-general, and about 400 prisoners were captured. During the day several parties of prisoners were brought in. Our losses were not very heavy, but until the returns are made I will not venture a statement.

R. R., JR.

No. 91.

Report of Brig. Gen. Seth M. Barton, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 10.

RICHMOND, *May* 16, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a report of the operations of my brigade on the 10th instant near Drewry's Bluff, and to inform the Department that I have been relieved from command of my brigade by order of Major-General Ransom, dated the 11th instant, a copy of which is herewith inclosed. This order not only violates General Orders, No. 141, paragraph I, 1863, and General Orders, No. 35, paragraph IV, current series, but deprives me of command under circumstances necessarily implying grave censure without informing me of the charges against me, if any there be, or allowing me to be

heard. Confident that the illegal and unjust act of General Ransom does not meet the approbation of the Department, I most earnestly request that proper steps be forthwith taken to repair the injury.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

MAY 16, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President with a report of the operations of the brigade and a copy of the request of the regimental commanders of Barton's brigade for his restoration to his command, the original request not having yet been received here. This seems to be a case similar to that of Colonel Harney, under General Scott in Mexico, and is met by General Orders, No. 141, of 1863, from this office, prohibiting such practice of relieving officers from their commands.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Second indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Please refer to the late law in relation to officers in the field deemed unfit for command, and call on General Bragg for information.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

[Third indorsement.]

MAY 20, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General Bragg for the information called for by the President.

The recent law referred to by the President is the act of February 17, 1864, published in General Orders, No. 22, of present series.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

RICHMOND, *May* 12, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part borne by my brigade in the affair of Tuesday last, the 10th instant:

At daybreak, in obedience to orders received from General Ransom the evening previous, I moved with one regiment (White's, Fourteenth Virginia), deployed as skirmishers, and connecting with one of General Gracie's, under his immediate command, and also deployed as skirmishers, to sweep the country south of the lines at Drewry's Bluff and ascertain the position and strength of the enemy. I was forced to make a detour to the right to avoid an impassable swamp in my front, and returning resumed connection with General Gracie. After proceeding some 2 miles, I was overtaken by a dispatch from General Ransom directing me to have my brigade about a mile in rear. General Gracie received a similar order. This

required a halt until the brigade should come up. General Ransom reached the ground about the same time with it, and ordered me to resume command of it, turning over the command of the skirmish line. Just as General Ransom arrived a cannon shot announced the proximity of the enemy. An advance was ordered, and we proceeded about half a mile. General Ransom ordered a regiment to be detached to the right of the skirmish line, to form line of battle at or nearly at right angles to it, the remainder of the brigade to be deployed across the turnpike, so that one and a half regiments should be on each side. The haste with which the brigade had been assembled and marched from the intrenchments by the senior colonel without previous warning left the pickets (one-fifth of the command), besides the detachments and guards over the artillery and in the redans, to follow. These overtook their commands at intervals during the day. My brigade was formed for attack by General Ransom's orders as follows: From right to left as enumerated, Fontaine's, Fifty-seventh Virginia, in line of battle at angle with rest of the line; White's, Fourteenth, deployed as skirmishers across an open, plowed field; a line of skirmishers from Fifty-third, Ninth, and Thirty-eighth behind this last-mentioned line; Aylett's, Fifty-third (six companies), Phillips', Ninth (six companies), Cabell's, Thirty-eighth (eight companies). Gracie's skirmish line connected with mine (the Fourteenth) near the turnpike, a company or two extending to the right and beyond it. A movement by Gracie to the left caused this detachment to be separated from the rest of his line, and uncovered my front to the left of the turnpike. It was discovered and by my order reported to General Ransom, who directed me to throw out additional skirmishers to relieve this fragment and to cover my front, and informed me that Gracie would close in and connect with it. It was thus that the skirmish line of the three left regiments was formed. When this arrangement was nearly completed on my part, and before Gracie's line had connected, the attack was signaled and the line moved. The Fifty-seventh was placed under command of Col. R. H. Chilton, inspector-general. The Fourteenth was taken charge of by one of General Ransom's staff, or some one acting as such, no formal order in either case having been given me.

The enemy in large force was strongly posted on a ridge nearly at right angles to the turnpike, and had begun to fortify the position. On his left front was an open field; the remainder of his front, as far as it was developed, was densely wooded to the bottom of the hill, where there was a thick morass. The sides and top of the ridge were covered with a tangled underwood—a growth of young oak and hickory, with fallen timber, and in parts an abatis just begun. Two lines of battle extended across the open fields and into the woods about 1½ miles long. I was unable to ascertain the enemy's force in artillery.

An advance of 100 yards brought us in contact with the enemy, whom we drove steadily before us, keeping as strict lines as the nature of the ground would permit. It was impossible to see more than a few paces; a captain could rarely see his whole company, a colonel never his whole regiment, at one glance. To add to these difficulties the woods were fired early in the action, and the smoke and flames driving into our lines blinded us and deranged the precision of movements. I believe the distance between the combatants rarely exceeded 50 paces, often not 20.

staff and couriers being absent carrying orders, and having no mounted person near me, I felt it my duty to inform him that my left flank was turned, what disposition I had made and was making to meet it, and to request that horses be sent forward to remove the captured gun. Before I had communicated more than the first part of my errand he directed me to return.

Shortly after rejoining (I had been absent from the immediate line about three minutes) we were forced back beyond the gun, which again fell into the enemy's hands and was used. A large force (I saw two colors and could tell from the sounds that their line was much longer than two regiments) gained the left and rear. I at once retired the whole across the morass and took up the position occupied before the assault. The movement was executed in perfect order and so secretly as not to draw the fire of this force. After a desultory fire of artillery on our new position the enemy withdrew, leaving us the field.

In the absence of the reports from the subordinate commanders I am unable to give the numbers and designation of the prisoners. They represented two divisions, and said that the whole corps (Tenth) was on the field—a statement verified as to numbers by the reconnaissance of a most reliable officer. The same cause prevents me from doing full justice to the merits of the officers engaged. The skill and gallantry of Colonels Aylett, White, and Phillips were conspicuous. Lieutenant-Colonel Cabell fell in the midst of the action while nobly discharging his duty, and Captain Griggs, who succeeded him, well supplied his place. The difficulties, so much enhanced by the overwhelming force of the enemy, were sufficiently great to call forth the qualities of the regimental commanders and taxed them heavily. To say they were equal to the demand is no slight praise.

The conduct of the troops was admirable. All officers agree that there was less straggling than they had ever known. They engaged a force five times their number on ground selected by the enemy and presenting unusual obstacles, drove them 1,000 yards, yielded the ground gained only after an obstinate conflict, and remained masters of the field. I have omitted mention of the part borne by the Fifty-seventh, as it was detached and not engaged under my observation. I am glad to be able to state that Colonel Chilton, under whose immediate command it was placed, commends its conduct. Inclosed please find a list of casualties. I am indebted to Captains Darden and Thom and Lieutenant Lyons, all of my staff, for efficient services.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
May 31, 1864.

This report should have been sent through me. In my report of General Barton's case it will be remarked upon.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

[Sub-inclosure.]

Return of casualties in Barton's Brigade, May 10, 1864.

Command	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
9th Virginia		3	4	37	3	46	
14th Virginia		12	2	42	15	71	
38th Virginia	1	10	1	59	10	81	
58th Virginia		3	3	30	3	39	
57th Virginia	1	6	1	30	3	41	
Total	2	34	11	198	34	279	

J. D. DARDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND, *May* 11, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. S. M. Barton is hereby relieved from the command of his brigade and will report in person to General Braxton Bragg at Richmond at once.

II. Col. B. D. Fry is hereby assigned to the command of Barton's brigade, and all the staff officers save the aide-de-camp will remain on duty with the brigade.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. R. Ransom:

T. P. BRANCH,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

ADDENDA.

CAMP OF BARTON'S BRIGADE,
Near Richmond, Va., May —, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

We, the undersigned officers, learn with the deepest regret that General Barton has been relieved of his command. We are not officially informed of the reason, but are led to believe from general report that he was removed "because the officers and men did not have confidence in him." We beg leave to state for ourselves that it is untrue, and that we have every faith in his skill as a military commander and his individual courage. We have been long in service, have been in many battles, which are unnecessary to mention to you, and we hope that our opinion may receive some weight with the Department. Many of us were eye-witnesses to his gallantry and coolness in the late action near Drewry's Bluff on the 10th instant. He was always in the thickest of the fray, leading his officers and men where necessary, and when the enemy were driven from their gun he was the first to take possession of it. He frequently loaded with practiced skill the foul guns of the new recruits and struggled for the advance in the charge. We speak knowingly for our men when

we say they desire his return to command them, and we plainly say for ourselves we want no better commander to lead us to victory. We therefore most respectfully petition that he be restored to his former command.

G. A. MARTIN,
Captain Company I, Thirty-eighth Virginia.
[And 84 others.]

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS BARTON'S BRIGADE,
Below Drewry's Bluff, May 18, 1864.

So far as I have been able to ascertain General Barton has the entire confidence of his brigade, and I would be gratified to see him restored to the command.

B. D. FRY,
Colonel Thirteenth Alabama Regiment.

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CAMP OF BARTON'S BRIGADE,
May 11, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: We, the undersigned officers of this brigade, have the honor to ask that Brig. Gen. S. M. Barton be restored to the command of which he was to-day relieved. In making this request we are actuated by no feeling of disrespect or opposition to Colonel Fry, who was assigned to the brigade on General Barton being relieved. On the contrary, we highly respect and esteem the former officer for the reputation which accompanies him, though he is a stranger to us; but General Barton has been long and pleasantly associated with us. We have a high regard for him as a man and confidence in him as an officer. We have seen and admired his gallantry in action, and we cannot but believe that his removal from his brigade is the result of a misconception of facts, a correct knowledge of which would relieve him of any censure. Moreover, general, his removal from this brigade immediately after its participation in an action where it sustained itself with credit against heavy odds, casts an aspersion upon either the general or the troops, which we believe no facts in the case will justify. Our officers and men deeply feel the mortification of such action at such a time, and are sure that no action of theirs or their commanding general called for his removal. Second to our country our military credit is dearest to us, and as the removal of General Barton affects it, we respectfully ask that he be restored to his brigade.

We have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

WM. R. AYLETT,
Colonel Fifty-third Virginia Regiment.
JAS. J. PHILLIPS,
Colonel Ninth Virginia Infantry.
C. R. FONTAINE,
Colonel Fifty-seventh Virginia Regiment.
GEO. K. GRIGGS,
Capt., Comdg. Thirty-eighth Virginia Regt.
WM. WHITE,
Colonel, Commanding Fourteenth Regiment.

We, the undersigned staff officers of the brigade, fully indorse the above communication and unite in the petition for the restoration of General Barton to the command of the brigade.

Very respectfully,

B. S. THOMPSON,
Major and Quartermaster.
J. D. DARDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.
W. W. HERBERT,
Major and Commissary of Subsistence.
A. C. THOM,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.
W. L. RANDOLPH,
First Lieutenant and Ordnance Officer.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS BARTON'S BRIGADE,
May 14, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

So far as I have been able to ascertain General Barton has the entire confidence of his brigade, and I would be gratified to see him restored to the command.

B. D. FRY,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
May 19, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

Having been absent from my office for a week nearly is the cause of delay in forwarding this paper. On Tuesday, the 10th instant, a reconnaissance with Barton's and Gracie's brigades, together with Shingler's cavalry and Dunovant's dismounted men, was made to ascertain the strength, position, &c., of the enemy near or on Winfree's farm, on the turnpike road leading to Petersburg. General Barton was directed to cover the country from the railroad to the turnpike with a line of skirmishers. Very soon after crossing Proctor's Creek it was ascertained that a line of over half a mile next the railroad was without a man. I directed General Barton in person to have the gap filled. After some considerable delay I inquired if the line had been filled. General Barton replied it had, when one of his officers replied, "The companies are just starting;" and I saw that the officer's remark was correct. When we arrived at Perdue's house the line of battle was formed, but General Barton was very slow in getting his men into position. Shortly after the attack was made General Barton reported that his left was being turned. I directed him to press his line to the left, as the movement on our part was toward the left. But a short time elapsed before General Barton again reported to me that his left was flanked. I ordered [him] to go at once in person and regain his position by moving his regiments to the left. Mean time General Gracie was brought to the right. General Gracie had gone down the river road. General Barton had one regiment and a half of a second on the left of the turnpike. This regiment and a half were forced across the turnpike to the right and

did not go back, General Gracie coming up and putting his right on the turnpike. The personal gallantry of General Barton I do not question. He exposed himself to fire in my presence frequently, but his evident inability to manage his command caused me to ask for another commander for the brigade. The officers of this brigade have stated that the men did not misbehave. My own observation and that of my staff, and other gentlemen who were with me, will prove beyond a cavil that large numbers ran from the field and could not be checked. I have stated that the regiment and a half on the left of the turnpike were forced across the turnpike to the right. I am satisfied that much the larger portion ran directly from the field. When I can make a report of this combat the part acted by each regiment will be noted. I am happy to state that on the 16th instant, under Colonel Fry, this brigade performed its part well.

Respectfully submitted.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

P. S.—In moving to the right General Gracie captured a party of some 40 men who had reached the left of General Barton. Anything like vigor on the part of General Barton would, in my judgment, have prevented the necessity of calling Gracie from his position, thereby exposing the left of the entire line and causing a withdrawal of the force much earlier than was contemplated.

R. R., JR.

[Third indorsement.]

MAY 20, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General Bragg.

S. COOPER.
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES CONFEDERATE STATES,
May 21, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Adjutant-General.

The report of Major-General Ransom explains fully the reasons for the relieving of Brigadier-General Barton. The case comes under the act of February 17, 1864, "to provide for retiring officers of the army." General Ransom has been called on for a detailed report, which will be submitted to the President for his action. In the mean time Brigadier-General Barton, if he desires it, can avail himself of an investigation before an examining board as provided by the law.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

JULY 21, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War with a request that it may be brought to the consideration of the President.

In my judgment the case should have an early investigation in order that Brigadier-General Barton may be afforded an opportunity of defending himself against the allegations made against him by Major-General Ransom, who recommends a court of inquiry. I do not concur with General Bragg that the case comes under the act of February 17, 1864, "to provide for retiring officers of the army."

That act authorizes the President, on the recommendation of any general commanding a department or army, to discharge from service any officer of C. S. Army, &c., or who is incompetent, &c., provided that any officer who may be so discharged, &c., shall be entitled to a trial before an examining board, &c. Now, Brigadier-General Barton was not so discharged, but only relieved from duty and ordered to report to General Bragg by General Ransom, who recommends that his case shall be investigated by a court of inquiry.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

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RICHMOND, *May* 20, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: Will you permit me to call your attention again to the fact that I have been relieved from my command, and to ask why? I was relieved under circumstances implying the gravest charges against my character as a soldier, and as yet have had no intimation of their nature; nor can my conduct suggest to me any cause. A day's absence from service now may be of irreparable injury to me, and were it voluntary, a disgrace. I must run the risk of appearing importunate in order that I may be relieved of the imputation that my situation entails. I beg that I be informed whether any allegations have been made against me by any one to lead to my being relieved from my command, and what they are; whether a petition from the regimental commanders of my brigade for my restoration has been received, and, if so, that I be furnished with copies of any indorsements thereon. In short, I most urgently and earnestly ask that I may be informed of what I am accused, and insist that I may be heard before action thereupon be had by the Department.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
May 21, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

I have just seen a report of Brigadier-General Barton made to you of the operations of his brigade on the 10th instant. For what I deemed sufficient reasons, I relieved him from command under the authority of law. That no injustice may be done I respectfully request that Brigadier-General Barton be allowed full time and opportunity for a thorough investigation of his conduct. I consider that he has violated orders in making his report directly to the Adjutant and Inspector General, and that it was but proper that such report should have been referred to me by the Adjutant and Inspector General before being forwarded to the President.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND, *May* 21, 1864.

General S. COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of Brigadier-General Barton's conduct on the 10th instant as the cause of my relieving him from command of his brigade under the act of Congress of February last:

On the evening of 9th I gave orders to Brigadier-Generals Barton and Gracie to move at daylight the next morning, with a strong line of skirmishers extending from the railroad to the James River, across the turnpike leading from Richmond to Petersburg, and to feel the enemy's position in our front. We were then in the works on the right and left of the turnpike south of Drewry's Bluff. Each brigadier was directed to take charge of his own line of skirmishers. Barton was to cover from the railroad to the turnpike and Gracie from the turnpike to the river. Just before daylight on the morning of the 10th I ascertained that the enemy was supposed to be in force of a brigade or two, with some artillery, at Winfree's house. At daylight I sent an order to the brigadiers above named to follow their skirmishers with their brigades about a mile in rear. When this order reached them the skirmishers had advanced about a mile or more, and the line was halted to bring up the brigades. During this halt I reached the line of skirmishers about half mile below Proctor's Creek. I had sent a guide to the right along the railroad. At the point I overtook the skirmish line he reported to me that more than half mile of the line next the railroad was not covered by skirmishers. I in person ordered General Barton to cover it. Some considerable time elapsed, and I inquired if the skirmishers had been extended to the railroad. General Barton replied that they had, when an officer present answered, "The companies are just starting." I turned and saw the companies not 80 yards from me. Considerable delay was occasioned by this. Finally the line was put in motion and moved to what is known as the Osborn road, leading from the Bermuda Hundred road and crossing the turnpike at right angles 400 yards in rear of Perdue's house. Here the line was halted and orders given to General Barton to form his brigade in line of battle, one regiment and a half on the left of the turnpike, one regiment detached and sent to the right of the Bermuda Hundred road west of the turnpike, and the rest of the brigade between the turnpike and the Bermuda Hundred road. (By reference to the map the disposition will be seen.) This line was established just in front of Perdue's house, along a small stream. General Barton was very slow in getting his men into position, and after awhile reported the line formed. I asked if the regiment sent to right of Bermuda Hundred road had reached its position, and he replied it had not reported. I then directed him to ascertain, and commence the advance by a certain signal, after reporting that all the regiments were in position. When the attack was about to be made I was informed by one of General Gracie's colonels that Gracie's line of skirmishers lapped for a quarter of a mile upon Barton's line of battle, and that Barton had no skirmishers on that part of the line. I sent General Barton to throw out his own skirmishers, and when informed that all was ready gave the signal for advance. Orders had before been given to keep closed to the left. As Gracie's left was on the river it was directed to stay there while we passed down the turnpike and Bermuda Hundred road. Very soon after the advance was ordered the

skirmishers engaged, and hardly had the musketry opened before the men on the left of the turnpike and just in front of Perdue's house began to pour out.

About fifteen or twenty minutes after the attack Lieutenant-Colonel Cabell, Thirty-eighth Virginia, was mortally wounded and passed me going to the rear. Almost immediately I discovered large numbers of men fleeing to the rear from the left of the turnpike, and General Barton rode up to me and reported that his left was being turned. I told [him] to go back and press his men to the left; the movement was toward the left, and that we were closing that way every minute. The exodus from the field still continued. I saw General Barton several times on the turnpike and in the open field, riding about, seemingly without object. I was near him; saw no effort to close to the left, and nothing done to check the stragglers. Finally, after about an hour from the beginning of the fight, which was not at any time hot, General Barton reported to me that his line had been pressed across the turnpike to the right, and that he was flanked. General Gracie was ordered to the right, and in reaching it captured some 40 or 50 of the enemy—all that were met in his movement to the right. The regiment on the right of Bermuda Hundred road, under General Chilton, had done its work well, but the rest of the line of this brigade acted feebly, and from my observation General Barton was incapable of making it act more vigorously. The reports of my staff officers confirm my impressions. I was provoked that General Barton should leave his line to report in person the second time that he was flanked. The result of Gracie's coming in and meeting little opposition, together with the fact of the enemy's not attempting to press so signal an advantage, convinced me that General Barton was not equal to a proper management of troops under the ordinary emergencies of battle.

To sum up: First, General Barton was advancing his line of skirmishers with over half mile of his proper line without a man on it; second, when directed to complete the line he reported it so before the men necessary to that end had hardly started; third, tardiness in putting his men in position; fourth, reporting line formed before knowing that one regiment was in place; fifth, not knowing that his front was covered by the skirmishers of another brigade; sixth, reporting his flank twice turned and not throwing his troops to that point, as directed, and general want of apparent vigor. Of his gallantry I have no question, as he was under fire all the time, and if injustice has been done him an investigation will prove it. The facts above stated can be substantiated above question. My conclusions may be wrong, but I do not believe it.

I shall have occasion to notice the report of General Barton, which was sent directly to the Adjutant and Inspector General, when I send in a report of the combat.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND, *May* 23, 1864.

General S. COOPER, *Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: A full report of the causes for removing General Barton from his brigade was made on 21st. Upon a thorough investiga-

tion of the law, I find that he will not be allowed an opportunity for a hearing till after he may be retired, should the President so decide; and as there would be great difficulty, if not impossibility, in his getting such examination now as is due him, I respectfully request that action be suspended until he can have the advantage of a court of inquiry, should he so desire.

Very respectfully,

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

MAY 23, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War, with recommendation that court of inquiry be ordered in this case, as suggested by General Ransom and requested by General Barton.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Second indorsement.]

MAY 23, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Your suggestion is approved. Let a court of inquiry be convened.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

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RICHMOND, *May* 23, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that a court of inquiry be called as soon as the interest of the service may allow to investigate certain allegations made against me by Maj. Gen. R. Ransom, Provisional Army, C. S.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
No. 123. } ADJT. AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., May 27, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. On the application of Brig. Gen. S. M. Barton a court of inquiry is hereby ordered to convene in this city on the 7th proximo, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to inquire into certain allegations as to the conduct of Brig. Gen. S. M. Barton on the 10th instant made by Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr.

Detail for the Court: Maj. Gen. John P. McCown, Brig. Gen. A. G. Blanchard, Maj. Gen. W. M. Gardner, Maj. L. R. Page, assistant adjutant-general, judge-advocate.

The Court will report fully the facts, and will express its opinion on the merits of the case.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 130. } *Richmond, June 4, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

XII. Paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 123, current series, convening court of inquiry in the case of Brig. Gen. S. M. Barton, Provisional Army, C. S., is hereby revoked.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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RICHMOND, *June* 4, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Special Orders, No. 130, paragraph XII, revoking paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 123, current series, convening court of inquiry in the case of Brig. Gen. S. M. Barton, Provisional Army, C. S. If it be intended to refuse me an investigation, I most earnestly ask that this action be reconsidered, for the following reasons, viz: Major-General Ransom, without authority, and in violation of General Orders, No. 141, 1863, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, deprived me of my command. He has submitted his reasons therefor, alleging six offenses of omission and commission, two of which impugn my honor. I deny the truth of all these allegations and demand investigation. Under the Ninety-second Act of War and custom of service, I am entitled to this investigation. That I have a right to be heard in my defense cannot be denied, and there exists no other law by which I may demand this right. The act of February 17, 1864, cannot apply to the case, because it is essential that there be the recommendation of a general commanding a department or separate army in the field. There is no such recommendation. On the contrary, an explicit denial of it is contained in a letter from the department commander dated May 23, 1864, addressed to you. I have already suffered irreparable wrong in loss of command, deprivation of service, injury to reputation and its concomitant mortifications. I claim that these sufferings are undeserved; have proceeded from false accusations and been illegally inflicted, and I appeal to the law for redress, and to that law under which alone I am able to appeal.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
June 6, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

H. L. CLAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

JUNE 7, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President for his consideration.

The case presented would seem to demand some opportunity for investigation.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Third indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL C. S. ARMY:

Returned for inquiry as to the action taken, particularly whether General Ransom was or was not directed to make his presentation of the case conform to the law under which he had acted.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

[Fourth indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
August 2, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the President.

All the papers in the case of Brigadier-General Barton were submitted to the Secretary of War the 23d ultimo. They contain all the information of record in this office touching it.

In the absence and by direction of the Adjutant and Inspector General:

H. L. CLAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 1, 1864.

General Bragg for attention, so that the right to investigation shall be secured.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

[Sixth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, December 20, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the Adjutant-General.

General Ransom was notified of this application. No official reply has been received from him at these headquarters, but he has verbally informed General Bragg, in North Carolina, that he had already reported the whole case to the Adjutant-General.

For General Bragg and in his absence:

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

CAMP OF BARTON'S BRIGADE,
Chesterfield County, Va., August 22, 1864.

Col. WALTER H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: On May 11, 1864, Brigadier-General Barton was relieved of the command of this brigade. As soon thereafter as practicable an

application for his return was made by his regimental commanders (a copy of which is inclosed*), which application was followed by a similar one from the remaining officers of the brigade, requesting the restoration of General Barton to his command, and expressing their entire confidence in his ability and gallantry. More than three months have elapsed without definite action in the case, during which time much undeserved obloquy has been cast upon the officers and men of the brigade. The indorsement of General Ransom's on the application of regimental commanders for the return of General Barton presents such conflict that justice requires an investigation. We, therefore, respectfully request of the commanding general such action as will tend to elicit all the facts connected with the battle of May 10, 1864, near Chester, touching the conduct of the officers and men of the brigade. The inclosed papers are respectfully forwarded for examination. We respectfully renew the request for the return of General Barton to his brigade.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

WM. WHITE,
Colonel Fourteenth Virginia Regiment.
GEO. K. GRIGGS,
Lieutenant-Colonel Thirty-eighth Virginia Regiment.
W. H. RAMSEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fifty-seventh Virginia Infantry.
JAS. J. PHILLIPS,
Colonel, Commanding Ninth Virginia Infantry.

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. BARTON'S BRIGADE, PICKETT'S DIVISION,
August 22, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

Application of regimental commanders warmly approved. Maj. Gen. R. Ransom, jr., in his indorsement on the paper of May 11, sent up by the regimental commanders of Barton's brigade, makes and tenders an issue of veracity with those officers. We accept it. Justice to the officers and men of this command, to the memories of those who fell on May 10, 1864, to the service, and to the honor and reputation of this brigade as an integral part of the Army of Northern Virginia, all require that this matter shall be brought to such a conclusion as that the allegations of Maj. Gen. R. Ransom, jr., if susceptible of proof, shall be made good or fail of substantiation.

WM. R. AYLETT,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS PICKETT'S DIVISION,
August 24, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

A recommendation for an officer to command this brigade was sent up some time since.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

* See p. 219.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
August 27, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the honorable Secretary of War.

I know of no obloquy or censure cast upon the men or officers of Barton's brigade. General George H. Steuart has been assigned to its command.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 1, 1864.

Steps are being taken to have General Barton's case properly disposed of. No other action on these papers is deemed necessary at present.

J. A. SEDDON.

[Fifth indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted to the President, with the opinion of the Adjutant and Inspector General and various papers in the case of Brigadier-General Barton.

The Department does not concur with General Bragg in the opinion he has given as to the present relation of Brigadier-General Barton to the service. The act of February 17, 1864, to provide for retiring officers from the army, does not give to a general the power to discharge an officer and to impose upon him the necessity of appearing before an examination board, as is supposed. The President may discharge an officer under that act upon the recommendation of a general in the field commanding an army or a department commander. No recommendation has been made in this case to the President, and the President has made no such order. General Barton has no claim for an examination board, nor under an obligation to ask for one. General Ransom and General Barton were both acting under General Beauregard, and in General Beauregard's department, when General Ransom relieved General Barton from his command. General Ransom was not in the condition to make the recommendation prescribed by the act aforesaid; but the case as presented does not show the case mentioned by the statute. The case presented in the act is incompetency or inefficiency, not on a particular occasion or under special circumstances, but such general incompetency or inefficiency as to authorize a general commanding to recommend, and the President to direct, a discharge from the army. The question for the President to determine is, whether upon the proofs submitted Brigadier-General Barton is entitled to be returned to his command, or whether he should have a court of inquiry or be tried before a military court.

For Secretary of War:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Secretary of War.

[Sixth indorsement.]

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Please review this statement as well of fact as the operation of the law referred to. Had or had not General Ransom a separate

command? Did he or did he not ask to have the officer relieved for such reason as brought the case within the act? Especially review that paragraph of the indorsement of your assistant which states the scope of the act.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Lines near Chaffin's, November 24, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from your office under date of the 19th instant, covering copies of the strictures upon my conduct in the affair of May 10 last, made by Maj. Gen. R. Ransom, jr., and gladly avail myself of the invitation to make my response. Some delay has occurred from my duties in the field, which cannot be subordinated to any personal interest, however important.

On the afternoon of May 9 General Ransom ordered General Gracie and myself to move at daybreak next morning with one regiment each from our respective brigades, connected at the Petersburg turnpike and deployed as skirmishers—General Gracie's regiment to James River and mine to the railroad—to sweep the country and ascertain the position and strength of the enemy. Selecting the Fourteenth Virginia, Colonel White commanding—which was the second regiment of my brigade in strength and containing several companies from Chesterfield County, one chiefly from the immediate locality we were to traverse, in which a portion had been scouting for the few preceding days—I caused it to be deployed at night as a portion of our picket-line about a mile from the camp, to be in readiness to move at the earliest dawn.

Just before moving, the next morning, I discovered that the regiment thus deployed did not quite reach the railroad. At the camp of the brigade the turnpike and railroad were not far apart, and a regiment deployed as skirmishers would have more than covered the space, they gradually diverge for some distance and then converge, crossing each other. Having thus to choose between a substantial compliance with the order, the stretching exactly to the railroad, which was in sight, being really unimportant, and the probable failure of the movement from the delay necessary to obtain the men to fill the gap, I determined to proceed at once, a decision I have doubted the correctness of. General Ransom states in his indorsement of the application of the commanders of regiments of my brigade for my restoration to its command that I was "directed to cover the country from the turnpike to the railroad with a line of skirmishers." In his report of my conduct he speaks of "a strong line of skirmishers from the railroad to James River, extending across the turnpike." He does not state that I was ordered to cover the space between the turnpike and railroad with one regiment. This is an important omission. As he has made the fact that this space was not covered a subject of grave complaint against me, there can be no possible mistake on my part as to his having specified the force I was to employ. The singularity of the order directing his two brigadiers to take each one regiment and to use them deployed as skirmishers fixed it upon my attention, and the loud, imperious tones of the

order given in presence of General Gracie and myself, with portions of our respective staff officers and his own, and a number of soldiers and camp followers, in hearing, afforded too many witnesses as to its terms for me to have any difficulty in firmly establishing it beyond cavil.

Soon after moving, an impracticable swamp on my line of march required a detour to the right, which leaving General Gracie's right unprotected he extended his line a short distance, about 100 yards, across and to the right of the turnpike. After passing the swamp I deployed again to the left, rejoining General Gracie, who did not withdraw his line across the turnpike. After proceeding some 1½ or 2 miles I received an order from General Ransom to wait for my brigade, which had been ordered to follow about a mile in rear of the skirmish line. The brigade and General Ransom arrived about the same time. Colonel Shingler, commanding cavalry regiment, joined us almost immediately afterward, and he—not a guide, as stated by General Ransom—reported that my skirmishers did not reach the railroad by about half a mile, this being about the point of greatest divergence of the two roads. General Ransom, in a violent and highly offensive manner, inquired of me why I had not obeyed his order in covering the ground to the railroad, and without waiting for a reply ordered me to have the gap filled. I sent one of my staff officers to the brigade, about 200 yards distant, to take two companies and fill the gap. General Ransom states that after waiting a considerable time he inquired of me whether the gap was filled, to which I replied that it had been; whereupon an officer remarked, "The two companies have just started," and pointed them out at not more than 80 yards distance. The officer charged with the execution of the order rode at speed to the brigade, and taking two companies from a point no over 200 yards from where we were, started them in a diagonal line toward the position they were to occupy; and finding it difficult to accompany them on horseback, on account of the thick undergrowth, returned along the road to meet them. As he reached our position he heard General Ransom's question and my answer, and in corroboration pointed to the companies just passing.

I cannot state with precision the terms of General Ransom's question. The considerable time which he speaks of did not exceed five minutes. I understood, as did my staff officer, the question to refer to the movement of the troops, not to their arrival at their destination, a point more than a mile distant, and it was answered by us both accordingly. Under the circumstances the time which had elapsed and the distance to be marched, such a question as that stated by General Ransom to have been asked by him would have been preposterous. This simple statement of facts is the only reply I deem necessary to make here to the insinuation contained in his allegation, and I will not imitate his want of charity by ascribing his impressions or his statements to any other cause than an impatience of temper, which perverted his observation of time or his recollection of what had passed. General Ransom complains that I reported to him my line of battle formed, which he says was tardily done without knowing that one regiment was in place. Colonel Fontaine's (Fifty-seventh Virginia) had been detached, as stated by General Ransom, and sent to the extreme right of the Fourteenth by his order, and was placed by him under the command of Col. R. H. Chilton, a staff officer, together with Dunovant's dismounted cavalry; knowing which, I of course no longer considered it as being under my com-

mand, and did not, therefore, include it in reporting my line of battle formed, that regiment being about a mile distant. I positively deny that there was any tardiness in the formation of the line of battle. Educated a soldier, with fifteen years' experience in the army, I deem myself a competent judge of the execution of a tactical movement. The troops were trained and veteran soldiers, and I assert that the movement was executed rapidly, steadily, and handsomely. Whether tardily executed or not, no delay resulted from it, for it had been formed, been reported, and waited more than half an hour before an advance was ordered.

General Ransom charges further that I was ignorant of the fact that Gracie's skirmishers covered part of my front. I discovered the fact and reported it by the colonel in command to General Ransom. Gracie had been ordered to the left. His movement was not communicated to the right of the turnpike, and the portion of his skirmishers already mentioned as being on that side had been separated from the rest. My examination of my front after the line was formed revealed this to me, and I directed the colonel (McLennan) to report it to General Ransom. He brought me a confused set of directions from General Ransom, which he could not make intelligible, and I went to General Ransom in person, and after some difficulty was informed as to what he desired, viz, to cover my front with additional skirmishers, being assured at the same time that Gracie would close in to the right and connect with me, which was never done until after the fight was over and my brigade had fallen back, in obedience to General Ransom's order, behind the point at which my line of battle had originally been formed.

In consequence of the gap thus left between Gracie and myself, the enemy, greatly superior in number and overlapping when pressed back on my front, were left on my flank. The first time I threw back two companies and repulsed them, and reported the fact to General Ransom by a staff officer (Captain Thom), not in person as stated by General Ransom. Advancing still farther through the dense and tangled woods, my flanks were still more exposed. I found it necessary to turn back the whole of the left regiment parallel to the turnpike and a part of the right regiment to meet their attacks. Having no mounted officer with me, and deeming it of importance that General Ransom should be informed of the position of affairs, after giving the necessary orders and seeing them in process of execution I rode in person to inform General Ransom, and to ask that horses might be sent to bring off a captured gun. Not waiting to hear me out, General Ransom, in the most offensive manner, ordered me to return and supervise the movement in person. I am unable to perceive the alleged fault of twice reporting my flanks turned, such being the fact of high importance and not proceeding from any error of mine, but caused by General Gracie's line being separated by General Ransom's orders.

General Ransom states that he saw me several times riding on the turnpike and in an open field, apparently without object. This assertion is not correct. After moving into the woods at the commencement of the fight I was with the troops in the woods without ever leaving them for an instant, save on the single occasion when I reported the enemy on my flanks, and was never where stated by General Ransom. The only explanation I can give of this statement of General Ransom's is that when entering the woods I was riding a horse of a conspicuous color, which, becoming unmanageable from

the firing, I dismounted from and turned loose, mounting the horse of my assistant adjutant-general, which I rode during the advance. When forced back and compelled to abandon the captured gun, having dismounted to pass an obstruction, as I was in the act of remounting with foot in stirrup this horse was killed by a cannon-ball, sprinkling me with his blood and driving pieces of his bones into my boot. During the remainder of the fight I was on foot. My clerk, who had caught my own horse, brought him to me in the woods, and I rode him out when the action was over.

Seeing me enter the woods on this horse at the beginning of the action and come out on him at its close, General Ransom may have supposed I had been riding him during the action, which he may have seen ridden by the clerk and mistaken him for me. This is the only explanation I can give of his assertion, which, so far as I am concerned, is without the slightest foundation. General Ransom in both papers referred to me lays particular stress upon his statements of the movement being to the left, and that the regiment and a half on the left of the road were "forced across the turnpike to the right." As I have already stated in my report:

> The axis of our march not being exactly parallel to the turnpike, and the dress being to the right, some divergence had occurred between the two portions of the Ninth. I accordingly crossed the left half of this regiment to the right of the road, and, moving the Thirty-eighth obliquely, re-established the connection.

This movement occurred in the advance, which inclined to the right and not to the left of the road, as stated by General Ransom, and consequently they were never forced across the road at all, and General Ransom is in error in supposing that I so reported; and the regiment (Thirty-eighth) which was on the left of the Ninth never crossed the road until after the fight was over and we had retired by General Ransom's order and reformed the line. Then, and not until then, did that regiment cross the turnpike, on which the right of Gracie's brigade (only then arrived) was posted, which explains why Gracie met with so little resistance in his movement to the right. These strictures of General Ransom's gave me the first intimation I have ever had that the movement was to the left. He had ordered me to advance to the cross-roads (Bermuda Hundred and turnpike), and not to proceed farther; nor would it have been practicable to execute a movement to the left at the time he says he gave the order, for both flanks had been turned and were heavily pressed, as well as the front.

General Ransom's statement seems to imply that General Gracie's movement and connection took place during the engagement, which is not the fact. The truth is, General Ransom formed his line of battle with a wide gap between General Gracie's command and my own, and thus advanced me against a continuous double line of the enemy, consisting of at least a corps, and not one or two brigades, as supposed by him; and I cannot see that any amount of "vigor" on my part "could have prevented the necessity of calling Gracie from his position, and causing a withdrawal of the forces much earlier than was contemplated." On the contrary, I aver that my command penetrated to within 50 yards of a road beyond which I had been ordered not to proceed, capturing prisoners from two divisions. In thus forcing back the largely superior force of the enemy it seems to me that my brigade did not act "feebly," but evinced considerable "vigor."

General Ransom complains in both papers of the conduct of the brigade on the 10th, and in his indorsement says: "I am happy to state that on the 16th instant, under Colonel Fry, this brigade performed its part well."

The officers of the brigade agree that it behaved better on the 10th than on the 16th, and I am prepared to prove that General Ransom complained bitterly to Colonel Fry on the 16th of the misconduct of the brigade on that day.

I have thus disposed of the special instances alleged by General Ransom as misconduct. The reason assigned by General Ransom for his frequently-expressed opinion of my incompetency to command, namely, "the result of Gracie's coming in and meeting little opposition, together with the fact of the enemy's not attempting to press so signal an advantage, convinced me that General Barton was not equal to a proper management of troops under the ordinary emergencies of battle," is, to say the least, illogical and inconsequential, as it is not easy to perceive what connection General Gracie not finding opposition (who did not come up till after the fight, nor pass over the field of battle) or the enemy's failure to use his advantage had to do with my competency to command. As for his opinion itself of my inability to manage troops and "general want of apparent vigor," I will only respond by referring to that expressed by all the officers of the brigade, who have seen much service on many a hard-fought field. If General Ransom thinks vehemence of action, speech, and gesture more indicative of "vigor" than quietness of demeanor, I do not agree with him, and have always considered that true vigor and energy are rather to be found in those who keep cool and retain quiet possession of all their faculties.

I feel that I should be grossly derelict in my duty to close this lengthy communication without protesting against the imputations cast by General Ransom upon the gallant brigade which I had the honor to command, though it does seem almost superfluous to say anything in regard to a command which has borne itself so nobly on so many occasions; but I feel it incumbent upon me to deny emphatically the charges of straggling, &c., so recklessly made. The straggling was the least I have ever seen in action. As soon as the new position was taken up the rolls were called and only 34 men found missing, of whom 9 subsequently to my report came in wounded. The casualties amounted to 249, out of less than 1,500 engaged.

The circumstances under which this paper has been written, and the haste proceeding from my anxiety to present it at once, have prevented the subject being treated in a manner satisfactory to myself, and the fear of adding to its already too great prolixity induces me to pass without notice some of the statements contained in the papers referred to me.

Believing, however, that this communication, together with my report, will embrace all the material points, I will only add that I invite the closest scrutiny and the most rigid investigation into my conduct and that of the brigade, which have been unjustly and causelessly assailed.

I am, general, with great respect, your obedient servant,

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

DECEMBER 1, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 20, 1865.

Capt. R. G. H. KEAN,
Chief of Bureau of War:

DEAR SIR: Mr. Burton N. Harrison, private secretary, directs the return of the inclosed papers, to be filed with the proceedings of a court of inquiry in case of General S. M. Barton, referred to your office for file from this office on the 9th instant.

I am, respectfully, yours,

M. H. CLARK,
Clerk.

No. 92.

Report of Col. George K. Griggs, Thirty-eighth Virginia Infantry, of operations May 5–7.

HDQRS. THIRTY-EIGHTH VIRGINIA REGIMENT,
November —, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my regiment in the present campaign:

At the opening of the campaign the regiment, 303 strong, commanded by Col. Joseph R. Cabell, was doing duty at New, McClellan, and Grape Vine Bridges, on the Chickahominy River. On May 5 it was ordered to and marched with the brigade to Hanover Junction. On May 7 it took train at Taylorsville for Richmond, and thence to Drewry's Bluff, and performed duty in trenches until May 10. It was engaged with its brigade (Barton's) and fought the forces of General Butler, U. S. Army, estimated at from 20,000 to 30,000 strong, upon the Richmond and Petersburg turnpike. In this action my regiment was formed on the left of the brigade and left of the turnpike. About 9 a. m. the signal of advance was given; the regiment moved forward and soon engaged the enemy's skirmishers, driving them upon their line of battle. At this point I found my left entirely unprotected and the enemy upon a line with my own. I immediately reported the fact to Colonel Cabell and one of General Barton's staff and deployed my left (Company K, Lieut. W. G. Cabaniss commanding) perpendicularly to my line of battle and continued the advance, breaking and driving back three lines of battle. The regiment captured two pieces of artillery.

My ranks having in this time become so much depleted from casualties, and the enemy on my left having passed around in my rear, I was ordered by Captain Thom, assistant adjutant and inspector general, to fall back, and, turning about, the regiment fought its way out, killing about 15, wounding many, and capturing 50 of the

Thirteenth Indiana Veterans. My loss in the regiment was heavy (64), and none are more regretted than the brave and noble Colonel Cabell, who fell mortally wounded early in the action.

I cannot mention particular instances of gallantry where all acted so well.

The regiment was engaged after this in the trenches around Richmond, operating against Sheridan's raiders, until the battle of Drewry's Bluff, May 16. The brigade, under command of Colonel Fry, formed a part of the attacking force on the left, supporting Hoke's (North Carolina) brigade. Owing to the density of the fog, this brigade was invisible at 40 paces, and having left my front without my knowledge, my regiment was precipitated against the enemy's works, and many were shot down without firing a gun while laboring under the delusion that General Hoke's troops were in our front, and it was not until we were within 20 paces of the enemy that we returned his fire. Then with much reduced ranks a few of the right and many of the left wing entered the enemy's works and captured a good many prisoners. I lost here many good men who had attested their gallantry on many bloody fields.

On the 18th the regiment, with the brigade, took the train for Milford, and marched thence for Spotsylvania. Finding the army falling back, we returned to Hanover Court-House, having marched two days and nights on short rations and with little rest. On May 27 the division was recruited and General Pickett took command, to the great joy of all.*

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. K. GRIGGS,
Commanding Thirty-eighth Virginia Regiment.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR.

No. 93.

Report of Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke, C. S. Army, commanding division, of operations May 16.

HEADQUARTERS HOKE'S DIVISION,
May 25, 1864.

CAPTAIN: On Sunday, the 15th instant, the intention to attack the enemy on the morning of the 16th at early light was made known to me by the commanding general while occupying the intermediate line of intrenchments around Drewry's Bluff, and confronting the enemy, who occupied the outer line of said intrenchments, extending his right through the woods in the direction of James River, while his left rested upon an elevated position across the railroad, with his masses immediately in front of our right and resting upon the railroad. The commanding general seeing the right was the weak point of the enemy, determined upon this as the point of attack. The brigades of Colquitt and Ransom were ordered relieved by an extension of my line to the right, which placed my division in line of battle, commencing at Fort Stevens, with Hagood's brigade on the left, Johnson's on his right, then Clingman, with Corse upon his right. These two brigades, under command of General Colquitt, were held

* For continuation of report, see Vol. XL, Part I.

in reserve immediately in rear of Hagood's brigade. The division commanded by Major-General Ransom, being in the field on our extreme left, was to turn the right of the enemy and pivot upon his right and connect with my left, while I was to engage the enemy in front with strong lines of skirmishers, and also open upon them with all my artillery. At the earliest dawn I ordered my entire artillery to open, and advanced the skirmishers of my whole front, and awaited the movement on my left for one hour before advancing my line of battle, thinking it would require this length of time to make the move, and knowing I must lose heavily by an advance upon the front, which it was the desire of the commanding general to avoid by the flank move.

Owing to the dense fog, I could see nothing of the movement of Major-General Ransom, and supposing by this time the right of the enemy had been turned, I ordered forward the brigades of Hagood and Johnson, with one section of Lieutenant-Colonel Eshleman's artillery, and found the enemy still occupying our outer line of intrenchments in heavy force, supported by eight pieces of artillery, with a second line of intrenchments along the line of woods immediately in front of our outer line of works. After commencing the move I could not recede, and ordered an attack by these two brigades, which was handsomely and gallantly done, which resulted in the capture of five pieces of artillery by Hagood's brigade and a number of prisoners, besides killing and wounding many, and also in occupying the works. One regiment on the left of Hagood's brigade extended across the outer line of works in the direction of James River, which was ordered forward to connect with the right of General Ransom's division, but to my amazement found the enemy in strong force behind intrenchments. It was not intended that this regiment should attack the enemy in this position, as the movement was to be made by the troops on the left, but they in their eagerness to enter the engagement did so, and, I am sorry to say, suffered most heavily. When it was seen that the enemy still occupied my front, this regiment was ordered back to the line of intrenchments to await the further development of the flank movement.

In the mean time the enemy made two charges upon the front of Hagood and Johnson to retake the lost works and artillery, but was most handsomely repulsed, and was followed on the left of Hagood's brigade, and driven from the woods in their front, and with the assistance of our artillery the pike was cleared of the enemy before the flanking column reached that point. During this time the masses of the enemy between our intermediate and outer line of works had moved upon the right flank and rear of General Johnson, which was some distance on the right of the pike and in the outer line of works, and made his position quite critical, but the stubbornness of the general made it all right. He was repeatedly attacked in this position, but repulsed every effort of the enemy. It was at this time I was anxious to get a brigade to throw down the outer line of works, which would have completely placed that portion of the enemy in the woods between our outer and intermediate lines at our mercy, but owing to a misunderstanding of the officer who conducted these forces they were placed in position improperly, and were of no avail. During these repeated attacks upon the right of General Johnson I became alarmed for him, as he had several times sent to me for assistance, and ordered two regiments of Clingman's brigade to report to him, which I did with great reluctance, as I felt it would defeat my plans

on my right, but necessity compelled me. In order also to relieve the position of General Johnson, which was our key, I ordered forward Corse with his brigade and Clingman with his two regiments. They went forward in good style, and drove the enemy from their front, but owing to the superior numbers and strong intrenchments they were not able to drive them entirely from their positions.

The commanding general will recollect that I before stated that the strength of the enemy was in front of these two brigades, both in position and forces, and therefore great credit should be given them for their actions. They were both small commands, but did their duty well. At the time the attack was made the enemy felt as if our forces were coming on them from all sides, and commenced retreating hastily. The losses of these commands were necessarily heavy, owing to a front attack.

I cannot refrain from calling the attention of the general commanding to the fact that his desire to relieve my command of a front attack by the flank move was in no portion of the line accomplished, in consequence of which my losses are very heavy. My brigade commanders entered into the move with spirit, and rendered every cooperation, for which I am under many obligations. A report of casualties has been furnished. I respectfully call attention to the names who are spoken of for gallantry mentioned in the inclosed reports of the brigade commanders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. F. HOKE.
Major-General.

Capt. J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 94.

Report of Lieut. Col. George C. Cabell, Eighteenth Virginia Infantry, Corse's brigade, of operations May 16.

The Eighteenth Virginia at this action [Drewry's Bluff] was still attached to Corse's brigade, then serving in Hoke's division.

The action commenced on the morning of May 16 by an attack on the enemy's right by our left wing. This attack pressing the enemy back induced them to commence a heavy attack upon our front. Several advances of the enemy upon our works were repelled, when at about 9 or 10 o'clock we left the fortifications, having driven back their first line of battle (they advanced in three lines), charged them, and, after a very heavy fight, indeed, beat them, killing and wounding great numbers and taking many prisoners. We suffered, too, very heavily. We pursued the enemy 2 miles or more. While on the charge above alluded to, I was shot down by a minie-ball entering my face and coming out below and behind my left ear, having passed entirely through my face. I was, of course, taken from the field and the command turned over to Colonel Carrington, who, I learned, pushed forward on the charge and made a very brilliant thing of it. This was one of the hardest fought battles of the war, and the results ought to have been magnificent for our country.

GEO. C. CABELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel Eighteenth Virginia.

No. 95.

Report of Brig. Gen. Bushrod R. Johnson, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 6–11.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S BRIGADE,
Drewry's Bluff, May 31, 1864.

SIR: I submit the following report of the operations of the troops under my command on the south side of James River from May 6 to 11, inclusive:

At 3 a. m. on the 6th instant I arrived at Drewry's Bluff from Chaffin's farm with my brigade, numbering in the aggregate 1,168, officers and men present, and occupied Fort Stevens. About 5 a. m. a part of the Twenty-first South Carolina Regiment, of Hagood's brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Dargan, arrived and was placed in position. While making a personal examination of the adjacent country, a dispatch from Major-General Ransom, commanding department, was received by my assistant adjutant-general, ordering Hagood's brigade to proceed immediately to Port Walthall Junction by rail, if there was a train to carry it. There being no train at the station, some three or four dispatches were exchanged in my absence by my assistant adjutant-general, during which correspondence the detachment of the Twenty-first South Carolina Regiment marched for Port Walthall Junction. About 11 a. m. the following dispatch was handed to me in person:

RICHMOND, VA., *May 6, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON:

I am astonished Hagood's brigade is not now at Port Walthall Junction. March it, and, if necessary to stop the enemy, your own, too, as quickly as possible to that point. The railroad must not fall into the enemy's hands. Rapidity is necessary. Act at once. If the enemy be at Port Walthall Junction dislodge him.

R. RANSOM,
Major-General.

This was the first intimation I had that the enemy was threatening the railroad. I immediately put my brigade in motion, and had advanced to within about 2 miles of the junction, when I received the following dispatch from Maj. F. W. Smith, commanding at Drewry's Bluff:

GENERAL: Our scouts report the enemy at Ware Bottom Church, 6 miles hence. I have already sent couriers to you with this intelligence. Had you not just returned, as the Yankees have burned houses on the river and the fleet is advancing:

F. W. SMITH,
Major, Commanding.

As everything was quiet in direction of Port Walthall Junction, I halted my command, sent a staff officer to communicate with Lieutenant-Colonel Dargan, now at the Junction, and endeavored to obtain further information of the movements of the enemy. About 5 p. m. I heard firing at Walthall Junction, and immediately put my brigade in motion for that place. On reaching the Junction, I learned that Col. R. F. Graham had arrived at that place from Petersburg at about 4.30 p. m. with the remaining companies of the Twenty-first and three companies of the Twenty-fifth South Carolina Regiments, and with this command of about 600 men that he had encountered a brigade or more of the enemy, with two pieces

of artillery, and driven them gallantly from the field. Their skirmishers at dark were still on the skirt of the woods southeast of the Junction. The report of Col. R. F. Graham is forwarded herewith. I immediately occupied the railroad excavation just southwest of the Junction with my brigade, placing skirmishers in front, Colonel Graham's command occupying a position on my left and front. During the night the remainder of the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-seventh South Carolina Regiments, with their brigade commander (Brigadier-General Hagood), arrived. Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, of General Beauregard's staff, reached the Junction in the morning, and by his skill, counsel, and active supervision throughout the period of these operations contributed in an eminent degree to the success attained. At daylight on the 7th instant it was ascertained that the enemy had entirely retired from our immediate front. Through scouts we learned that their forces were in the vicinity of Ware Bottom Church and at Cobb's farm. For the most reliable information I was indebted to Roger A. Pryor, who was active, tireless, and daring in reconnaissances. At about 10 o'clock it was resolved to advance toward the church, with a view to feel the strength and position of the enemy. General Hagood was ordered to move in front, with Johnson's brigade in support. The head of the column had not advanced more than a mile when General Hill, who had gone to the front to make a personal examination, returned and reported the enemy's cavalry advancing immediately upon us at about 300 yards distance from our column. General Hagood was directed to bring his leading regiment into line and advance its skirmishers. Subsequently another regiment was advanced and formed on a line with the first. These regiments were for nearly an hour engaged in a sharp skirmish with the enemy. The movements of the enemy's infantry seeming to indicate a purpose to flank these regiments on their left, they were retired to our line of battle on the railroad.

In the mean time the enemy had shown a considerable force in two lines—four regiments of infantry and a battery of artillery—in front of our right, near the house of Mrs. Dunn. Skirmishers from Colonel Graham's regiment were advanced to attract the attention of this force, and a section of Hankins' battery, supported by two regiments of Johnson's brigade, was advanced under cover of the woods on the right of Port Walthall railroad to fire on the enemy's infantry. A few rounds from the artillery drove the infantry under cover of adjacent grounds. The fire of the artillery appearing no longer effective, and the movements of the enemy indicating a purpose to make a general attack, I thought it best to preserve a compact line; consequently, our artillery and infantry were withdrawn to the line of the railroad. The enemy soon appeared in two lines on the open grounds and skirting the woods on the high ground east of the Junction and of Ashton Creek, fronting Hagood's brigade, stationed on my left. At the same time they also reappeared in their original force in the vicinity of Mrs. Dunn's house, threatening Johnson's brigade on my right. Aided by General Hill, I placed two pieces of artillery on the left of Craig's house to open on the enemy in the vicinity of Mrs. Dunn's, and four pieces behind the railroad or west of it, near the water-tank, to play upon the enemy's infantry east of Ashton Creek.

Subsequently one of these latter pieces was removed to a piece of high ground farther north, on the south side of the railroad, affording a more direct fire on the enemy. Two other guns which came

to the Junction were manned with uninstructed convalescents and men on furlough, picked up in Petersburg, who deserted their pieces before they fired a shot. These I caused to be manned by men from the Tennessee (Johnson's) brigade and placed on the hill on the turnpike west of the railroad. The forces in front of Johnson's brigade contented themselves with threatening our right and firing artillery at the batteries and infantry in vicinity of Craig's house. Those on the east of Ashton Creek opened about 2 p. m. with artillery and infantry fire, to which we replied very successfully, so that they for a time seemed about to withdraw, and the firing ceased. General Hagood was instructed to cover the turnpike with his left regiment. After some delay this was accomplished by the foresight and interposition of General Hill just in time to meet the second line of the enemy, which had been moved under cover of the woods by the right flank, and now appeared bearing down on and flanking Hagood's left. General Hagood now changed the front of his left regiment so as to meet the enemy on his left. In this movement this regiment was exposed to a heavy cross-fire. At this juncture occurred the sharpest and most critical part of the conflict. The two pieces of artillery stationed in the pike on the west of the railroad were, at call of General Hagood, sent to the left, and the second regiment from the left was drawn out to support the left regiment, the regiment on the right closing in to fill the interval. General Hagood's left now advanced, drove the enemy back with heavy loss, and regained the railroad to the left of his former position. The enemy again advanced on Hagood's front, his brigade being under cover of the railroad, and were driven back with heavy loss. During both conflicts the artillery on the left of Craig's house played handsomely upon the enemy's line, which had advanced on the east side of Ashton Creek and attacked Hagood's front. The pieces nearest Craig's house had several horses killed and one of the carriages damaged. The artillery sent to the left was badly served and gave but little assistance. Lieutenant-Colonel Eshleman brought up in the evening a battery of the Washington Artillery, which was sent to the support of Hagood's brigade, but it was then too late to afford any assistance. The infantry ceased firing, save a few sharpshooters, about 4 p. m. The artillery continued fire until about 6 o'clock, when the enemy retired from the field.

The enemy's loss is supposed to be about 1,000 men. Prisoners have estimated it much higher. The provost-marshal of Johnson's brigade reports 21 prisoners captured.

I distinguished four brigades of Federals on the field. Their forces are reported to have consisted of five brigades, commanded by Brig. Gen. W. T. H. Brooks. Our aggregate was 2,568, of which 1,500 were of Hagood's brigade, and 1,168 of Johnson's brigade. The conflict was maintained on our side entirely by Hagood's brigade and the artillery. My right flank (Johnson's brigade) after making the demonstration as stated on the enemy's left, had only to watch the threatening columns of some two brigades in its front. Seven men of that brigade were wounded, 1 mortally, while Hagood's brigade lost 177, viz, 32 killed, 142 wounded, and 3 missing. Brigadier-General Hagood handled his men with marked ability, coolness, courage, and watchful care. His report, herewith inclosed, will furnish more particular details in regard to the meritorious services of officers and men. The steady valor of his command was worthy of its

State and the great cause for which it is fighting. After dark another regiment and a battalion of Hagood's brigade arrived, giving us an aggregate of about [illegible]. It was evident that the enemy's force was much superior to our own, and no doubts were entertained in regard to their receiving new accessions.

During the evening I received the following communications:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Petersburg, Va., May 7, 1864—5 p. m.

General B. R. JOHNSON,
[illegible]

GENERAL: If you cannot hold present position [illegible] better [illegible] back to Swift Creek. The enemy are [illegible] side of the river. Have sent [illegible] the next detachment here. [illegible]

Very respectfully,

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
[illegible], May 7, 1864—7 p. m.

Brig. Gen. BUSHROD JOHNSON,
[illegible]

GENERAL: [illegible]

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Petersburg, Va., May 7, 1864.

General B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.

GENERAL: I have sent you two dispatches this evening and have received no reply. I have received no reinforcements except what you have with you. You will [illegible] Swift Creek [illegible] artillery, which has been [illegible] regiment and a battery [illegible] crossing of the road from [illegible] Court-House to this point. [illegible] pickets to withdraw at [illegible]. Intrenching tools will be sent to [illegible] Creek.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

This was received by me about 10 p. m. of May 7, 1864. Between 10 and 11 p. m. the artillery was put in motion. At 12 p. m. the infantry moved, and by [illegible] the morning of [illegible] May [illegible] our forces had crossed to the south bank of Swift Creek. During the [illegible] and [illegible] of the [illegible] I [illegible] Colonel Harris [illegible]. The [illegible] M[illegible] the [illegible] instant, [illegible] Swift Creek. In this [illegible]. From reports [illegible] Major-General Hill, who [illegible] the enemy must have [illegible] Creek. From subsequent [illegible] went as far north as Chester.

During the [illegible] of the [illegible] our troops were engaged in constructing a [illegible] of rifle-pits, with batteries, under the supervision of Colonel Harris. Hagood's brigade was posted on

the left, covering the turnpike bridge and extending well out on either side. A detachment from this brigade and a section of artillery occupied Brander's Bridge, on our extreme left; McKethan's, Fifty-first North Carolina Regiment, covered the railroad bridge, and Johnson's brigade was posted on the right, covering Level Ford and adjacent grounds. Some eighteen pieces of artillery, consisting of Hankins', Payne's, Owen's, and Martin's batteries, were distributed along our lines, mainly at the fords and bridges. From the Forty-fourth Tennessee Regiment, Johnson's brigade, 32 men and 3 sergeants, under Lieut. F. M. Kelso, were detached to man the heavy artillery in Fort Clifton, where Capt. S. T. Martin commanded. At 9 a. m. on May 9 a small boat appeared in the Appomattox below Fort Clifton, which was fired on and driven off. At about 11 a. m. five gun-boats advanced and engaged the battery at Fort Clifton. The firing was continued from the fort until after 2 p. m., when four gun-boats retired and the fifth one was found to be crippled. A party was organized to board the boat, but the enemy set fire to it, abandoned and burned it.

For their services and gallant conduct at Fort Clifton in the fight with the gun-boats on May 9 the officers and men have received the special commendation of the general commanding the department. By 12 m. the enemy were in strong force on the north side of Swift Creek and slight skirmishing was commenced with artillery and infantry. About 11 a. m. I received a note from Major-General Pickett informing me that re-enforcements were on their way from Weldon, and advising me not to bring on a general engagement, if possible to avoid it. At 2 p. m. I received the following dispatch from Major-General Pickett:

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 9, 1864—1 p. m.

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move forward at once and see what the enemy are doing. Further instructions will be sent in course of half an hour. I inclose a copy of dispatch just received from General Bragg.

I am, general, yours, &c.,

C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I immediately ordered General Hagood to move forward by the turnpike and take the eminence beyond the creek, believing from the dispatch of General Bragg that it was my duty to press upon the enemy with nearly my whole force. I now dispatched to Major-General Pickett that I had received the order to advance and had given the order to commence the movements. The skirmishers of Hagood's brigade had not engaged the enemy when I received the following communication:

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that you had better hold the line of Swift Creek till re-enforcements arrive and we can then make the advance. Try and find out whether the present demonstration is a feint or a real movement.

I am, general, with much respect, your obedient servant,

C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

My dispatch announcing to General Pickett that I had given orders to commence the movement was returned with the following indorsement:

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 9, 1864.

General JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Since the order was given for you to advance General Pickett has sent another countermanding it and telling you to hold the line of Swift Creek, if the enemy, as reported, were advancing in force on you.

C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

As a consequence of these communications, the movement ordered became a reconnaissance with a part of Hagood's brigade. The enemy was found in heavy force in vicinity of the turnpike, on the north side of Swift Creek. After a very sharp skirmish, General Hagood withdrew his forces from the north side of the creek, having lost in a brief period 9 officers and 128 men killed, wounded, and missing. It was evident that the whole of the enemy's forces were in our front. Communications were received during the night from Major-General Ransom and Brigadier-General Barton at Drewry's Bluff, inquiring for the enemy, and stating that there had been but little demonstration in their front during the day. The enemy's sharpshooters were now pressed forward, especially in the vicinity of the railroad bridge. They reached a fence in the open field, within some 500 or 600 yards of the Dunlap house, and very much annoyed our main line. With the first design of making a determined attack upon the enemy, the Fifty-first North Carolina Regiment had been replaced at this point by a part of the Sixty-third Tennessee Regiment. Capt. J. W. Robertson, of the latter regiment, was now directed to take two companies and drive the enemy's skirmishers back. This was handsomely done by a charge. Somewhat later, in the darkness of the night, the enemy's reserve—about a regiment—made a demonstration, fired a volley on our skirmishers, raised a shout, and made an effort to charge them, but Captain Robertson's command held its position until a late hour at night, when it was relieved by two companies of the Fifty-first North Carolina Regiment. A heavy line of skirmishers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Aiken, of the Sixty-third Tennessee, held Level Ford during the night of the 9th. The enemy, however, attempted to cross some men above the ford and brought up a piece of artillery to the stream, but they were promptly driven back by a detachment under Captain Millard, of the Sixty-third Tennessee Regiment.

In the skirmishing at Swift Creek Johnson's brigade had 5 men wounded, 1 mortally, making the total number of casualties at this point 142. The loss of the enemy was, perhaps, about an equal number.

During the morning of the 10th parts of Wise's, Ransom's, and Hoke's brigades arrived. About 1.30 p. m. the prevailing quietude on the line induced me to order the artillery near the railroad bridge to open. It drew no response from the enemy, who had previously made very free use of a battery of artillery just opposite. I then ordered forward our skirmishers and found the enemy had withdrawn without any manifest cause. Major-General Hoke arrived this evening, counseled no movement, and assumed command on the morning of May 11.

I forward herewith Col. R. F. Graham's report of the affair at Port Walthall Junction on the evening of May 6; also Brigadier-General Hagood's report of the actions and casualties at Port Walthall Junction on the 6th and 7th, and at Swift Creek on the 9th of May, 1864.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

Capt. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA

Report of casualties of Johnson's Brigade at Walthall Junction and Swift Creek, May 7 and 9.*

	Killed.			Wounded.		
	Officers.	Non-commissioned officers.	Privates.	Officers.	Non-commissioned officers.	Privates.
At Walthall Junction:						
44th and 25th Tennessee Regiments					1	2
17th and 23d Tennessee Regiments		1			1	1
63d Tennessee Regiment						1
At Swift Creek:						
17th and 23d Tennessee Regiments			1			3
63d Tennessee Regiment						1
Total		1	1		2	8

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN S. FULTON,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

No. 96.

Report of Col. John S. Fulton, Forty-fourth Tennessee Infantry, commanding Johnson's Brigade, of operations May 7.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S BRIGADE,
Fort Clifton, May 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this brigade in the engagement at Port Walthall Junction on the 7th instant:

The morning of the 7th found us in line of battle on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, and to the right of the Junction. About 10 o'clock we received orders to move to the front. We had not gone far, however, before we were ordered to resume our former position. This being done, in about fifteen minutes we were ordered to move by the flank and on the left of the enemy's line of battle, under cover of a thick pine woods. Leaving one regiment in reserve, we reached the point designated and formed line of battle perpendicular to that of the enemy, supporting a section of artillery in our front. Just at this time our battery opened on the enemy. The enemy's battery replied and shelled our position fiercely, though with very little effect, wounding 3 men. Failing to induce the enemy to advance, as

* Nominal list on file.

was anticipated, and finding that he was moving to our right, we retired to our first position on the line of the railroad, now become the right of our line of battle. Here we remained during the rest of the day. The enemy did not advance on our position, consequently, with the exception of some skirmishing and cannonading, we were not otherwise molested. Our casualties are as follows: Wounded, 7 privates; missing, 1 private.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN S. FULTON,
Colonel.

Capt. R. E. FOOTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 97.

Report of Col. R. H. Keebl, Twenty-third Tennessee Infantry, commanding Seventeenth and Twenty-third Tennessee Infantry, of operations May 4–16.

HDQRS. 17TH AND 23D TENNESSEE REGIMENTS,
May 22, 1864.

GENERAL: In compliance with circular orders from your headquarters of this date, I herewith most respectfully submit the following report of the part taken by my regiment in the battle of Drewrys' Bluff, May 16, 1864:

Before, however, entering upon a detailed account of this action it may not be amiss to take a cursory view of the movements of this regiment for some days previous. After an arduous and fatiguing campaign in East Tennessee during the winter and spring, under Lieutenant-General Longstreet, we were ordered from Abingdon, Va., to Richmond on May 2, which point we reached on or about May 5. Having remained in the city one night, we were ordered to Chaffin's Bluff, to relieve a brigade which had been stationed there for some months past. To this point we proceeded, and, in comfortable quarters, thought that here for awhile we would rest, recruit up; become more thoroughly organized for future operations. It was not thus destined, however. One brief hour was our stay at this apparently comfortable encampment, when we were ordered to proceed without delay to cross the river to Drewry's Bluff, the enemy having been reported as advancing on the south side of the river.

We succeeded in getting all over by sunrise the next morning. Here we remained for a few hours, when we were ordered to Walthall Junction, where we remained in line of battle until the night following, being under fire and skirmishing with the enemy. Thence we marched to Petersburg, where, having formed our lines, we remained until ordered back to Drewry's Bluff. While here we were constantly skirmishing with the enemy during the day and throwing up intrenchments during the night.

Finally we moved from Petersburg on the 11th instant in the direction of Drewry's Bluff, and reached the outer line of fortifications on the 12th instant. I was immediately put in position on the right of the road, my left resting upon the Petersburg and Richmond turnpike and my right resting upon the left of the Sixty-third Tennessee Regiment. This position we occupied until ordered to evacuate the line and retire to the inner line of fortifications on the 14th instant.

This position we occupied until the action of the 16th, my left resting still upon the turnpike and my right upon the left of the Sixty-third Tennessee. During the time we were occupying these two lines we were constantly under the shelling of the enemy and the fire of their sharpshooters.

When the battle on the 16th commenced my orders from General Johnson were to move down the turnpike by the left flank until I reached the outer line of fortifications, when I would halt, front, and move forward in connection with General Ransom's division. Long before I reached the outer line of fortifications I discovered that the enemy were still occupying our works with a battery of seven pieces (Parrott guns), planted in the center of the turnpike a little beyond the fortifications. We, however, continued to move forward under a perfect shower of grape, canister, and minie-balls, which swept up the turnpike. Reaching the trenches, line was immediately formed confronting the enemy, and here commenced and raged for two hours or two and a half one of the most desperate actions in which I have ever been engaged. The enemy were in strong force under our trenches, and his battery above alluded to played upon us most furiously. They were vastly outnumbering me, with fixed bayonets, and nothing but the thickness of the wall separated us. They had also succeeded in turowing a force upon my right flank and rear, from which we received a most galling fire. Having thus in a measure surrounded us, they frequently demanded our surrender, which, however, was met with defiant yells and volley after volley from my regiment. With their battery in our front, their infantry in overwhelming numbers in our front and upon my flank and rear, the case seemed desperate to the last degree; but by causing the rear rank of my regiment to face about we thus met and fought them on all sides; succeeded in driving them off and holding our position; silenced and captured their battery of seven pieces (Parrott guns). One of these pieces was brought to the rear by a detail from my own regiment. Some other brigade or command passed over the ground where the rest of it was left, and, I understand, claims to have captured it. I hope, however, our commanding officer will do us justice in this particular.

The enemy, to impede our progress and advance upon them, had obstructed the road with telegraph wire, in order to trip up the men. This trick (emphatically a Yankee one) was, however, soon discovered and surmounted. While the fire was thickest and hottest some stragglers from another command, who had sought refuge in a ditch in our rear, raised a shirt in lieu of a white flag. This gave the enemy great encouragement, but on being discovered by the men of my regiment every one called out, "Tear it down; tear it down!" Lieutenant Waggoner, of my regiment, immediately rushed to the recreant and pulled it down, being wounded in the attempt. Lieutenant Waggoner, for this display of gallantry and daring, is entitled to the highest consideration and commendation. For this, as well as other acts during the battle, he is entitled to most distinguished notice.

I carried into action 319 men; had 14 killed and 54 wounded, among the number Lieutenant-Colonel Floyd (who was mortally wounded, has since died), Captain Cortner, and Lieutenant Patrick.

It is difficult to draw any distinction where all acted with so much gallantry. Lieutenant-Colonel Floyd, Maj. J. G. Lowe, Captain Cortner, Captain Terry, and Lieutenant Waggoner all acted with

most distinguished gallantry, and are all entitled to marks of distinction for their skill and ability. Lieutenant-Colonel Floyd was mortally wounded in the faithful discharge of his duty. Among the privates who deserve special mention is Archer Neill, a young man of great worth and fine military education. He fell mortally wounded among the foremost in the charge upon the breast-works. There are many others who deserve credit for the manner in which they acted, but whose names are unknown. I trust that in due time justice will be done them all.

Soon after the action General Ransom's division came up, when the brigade—all that was left of it—reformed and moved to the left of the turnpike. While there I was put temporarily in command of the brigade, and the command of the regiment devolved upon Maj. J. G. Lowe. There we remained until we were moved by the right flank and ordered to close up on General Clingman. The battle, however, was then over.

Most respectfully submitted.

R. H. KEEBLE,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

General B. R. JOHNSON.

No. 98.

Report of Capt. William N. James, commanding Twenty-fifth and Forty-fourth Tennessee Infantry, of operations May 16.

HDQRS. 44TH AND 25TH TENNESSEE REGIMENTS,
May 22, 1864.

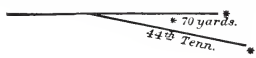
I have the honor to make a report of the part taken by the Forty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Tennessee Regiments in the engagement of May 16 instant, near Drewry's Bluff.

About 3 a. m. skirmishers were sent out from this regiment, composed of First, Fourth, and a detachment of 10 men from second company. A brisk fire was opened upon the enemy's skirmishers, who were driven back to their intrenchments. In this skirmish we sustained a loss of 5 men wounded from first company and 1 man missing from fourth company. About 4 a. m. the regiment moved with the brigade by the left flank from our second line of intrenchments along the Richmond and Petersburg dirt road, where we came under fire of the enemy's batteries, and on reaching the cabins recently used as brigade (Johnson's) headquarters we formed line of battle by the movement of "forward into line" in double-quick time, and moved against the enemy, who were now occupying our first line of breast-works, and who were delivering upon us an extremely heavy and fatal fire of both musketry and artillery.

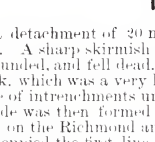
We were about 100 yards from the breast-works, or less, when Lieut. Col. J. L. McEwen received a severe wound in the right leg, disabling him from further command. He ordered Major McCarver to hold the position at the risk of the loss of every man. Major McCarver took command and pressed forward, and we engaged the enemy. We were now near our first line of breast-works, then occupied by the enemy in position on the east side. The left of the regiment got to the breast-works first, marching a little obliquely. The enemy met the left wing of the regiment with a well-directed fire of musketry and demanded a surrender.

Capt. S. J. Johnson and his company (Twenty-fifth Tennessee) were here taken prisoners, with several other officers and men; in all, 1 captain, 4 lieutenants, and 45 men. Major McCarver had received a mortal wound and died on the field. Both of our field officers having been placed hors de combat, some confusion ensued.

Being the senior captain of the regiment, its command now devolved upon me. I found I had no support on my right. I rallied my regiment under heavy fire of the enemy and took shelter behind an arm of the breast-works which adjoined the main works, but it had no communication with the inner line, thus:



I again ordered my men to fire upon the enemy. I here saw the enemy pressing forward his skirmishers on my extreme right, at right angles with my position, in an open space from the intrenchment which they held, and which extended down on my right about 300 yards distant, and meeting the line of intrenchements in my front, thus:



I immediately sent a detachment of 30 men, under Lieut. J. A. Hatch, to engage them. A sharp skirmish ensued, and Lieutenant Hatch was mortally wounded, and fell dead. My skirmishers drove those of the enemy back, which was a very heavy line. The enemy abandoned our first line of intrenchments under a hot fire along our whole line. The brigade was then formed in line of battle, by the brigadier commanding, on the Richmond and Petersburg dirt road, moved forward, and occupied the first line of intrenchments, from which the enemy had been driven, where we remained until late that evening, and then moved with Clingman's brigade to support Captain Martin's battery of artillery, which engaged the enemy the following day.

For list of casualties I refer you to annexed report, and remain, your obedient servant,

W. N. JAMES,
Captain, Comdg. 44th and 25th Tennessee Regts.

Captain FOOTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

	Killed	Wounded	Prisoners	Aggregate
Officers	2	4	5	11
Men	7	32	45	84
Total	9	36	50	95

No. 99.

Report of Col. Abraham Fulkerson, Sixty-third Tennessee Infantry, of operations May 9.

HDQRS. SIXTY-THIRD TENNESSEE INFANTRY,
Before Bermuda Hundred, June 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken in the affair at Swift Creek, May 9, 1864, by the Sixty-third Regiment:

When the brigade occupied the line behind Swift Creek my regiment was posted at Level Ford, 1½ miles below the Dunlap house, from which point Captain Millard, Company E, was deployed as skirmishers to the right and left—connecting with the Seventeenth and Twenty-third Tennessee on the left, and the Forty-fourth and Twenty-fifth on the right—at a point half a mile from Fort Clifton, holding a line near 2½ miles in length. This was on May 8.

Early on the morning of the 9th the enemy appeared on the bluffs on the opposite side of the creek, when sharp skirmishin commenced and was kept up from the ford or center to the left throughout the day and until a late hour at night. About 12 o'clock on the 9th I was ordered to leave a heavy line of skirmishers along the line of the creek, and occupy the rifle-works in front of Dunlap's house with the reserve. The skirmish line was strengthened by the addition of Companies B, H, and I, and Lieutenant-Colonel Aiken placed in charge of the line. This part of the line was successfully held until relieved on the morning of the 10th, though during the night the enemy effected a crossing at the angle opposite the Dunlap house, and succeeded in getting a piece of artillery to the water's edge. This force was driven back promptly with a detachment from the right of the line, under Capt. C. R. Millard. Late in the evening of the 9th the enemy's line of skirmishers was advanced to a fence within 500 or 600 yards of Dunlap's house. From this position their sharpshooters were enabled to annoy our line considerably. About dusk General Johnson, through Captain Blakemore, requested me to drive the line back. Companies A and K, under Capt. J. W. Robertson, were detached and directed to cross the creek near the left of the enemy's line and to attack it in flank. It was subsequently found impracticable to attack in flank. The companies were then deployed in front, and a charge ordered and executed satisfactorily. The line fell back in confusion, with a loss of 2 killed. The enemy's reserve, supposed to be a brigade, fired a volley into our line and made an effort to charge it, but to no purpose. Captain Robertson held the line until a late hour at night, when he was relieved by two companies from a North Carolina regiment.

James Carroll, Company A, was slightly wounded in the charge on the night of the 9th. Several others were slightly injured, but did not leave the field and were not reported as wounded. Captain Robertson was among the number.

After being relieved by a North Carolina regiment, the reserve of my regiment marched back to Level Ford, where it remained until relieved on the morning of the 10th instant.

Very respectfully,

A. FULKERSON,
Colonel.

Capt. R. E. FOOTE, *Asst. Adjt. Gen.*

No. 100.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Johnson Hagood, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations May 6–16.

HDQRS. HAGOOD'S (SOUTH CAROLINA) BRIGADE.
Near Drewry's Bluff, Va., May 13, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the operations of my brigade in front of Petersburg:

On the 6th instant the Twenty-first Regiment and three companies of the Twenty-fifth, under Major Glover, the whole under Colonel Graham, of the Twenty-first, arrived at Port Walthall Junction, upon which the enemy were then advancing, and in a very short time were engaged. Colonel Graham formed his line east of the railroad, at a distance of some 300 yards and parallel to it. His position was well chosen in a sunken road, with his left resting upon a ravine and his right upon a wood. He succeeded in repulsing a considerably larger force than his own, accompanied by two pieces of artillery. From information received from prisoners the enemy were supposed to have been Heckman's brigade. Our troops, both officers and men, must have behaved with distinguished gallantry, and I beg leave respectfully to refer for particulars to the report of Colonel Graham, inclosed.

At dark on that night I arrived at Petersburg, with the balance of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, and marched immediately from the cars to re-enforce Colonel Graham. The Twenty-seventh arrived a little later and followed, the whole arriving at Port Walthall Junction before day. I found Brigadier-General Johnson also at that point with some 800 muskets. He informed me that hearing the firing of Graham's action he had marched from the direction of Drewry's Bluff to re-enforce him, arriving after the repulse of the enemy. The general ranking me, I reported to him for orders. When day broke it was discovered that the enemy had in the night retired from our front. I was ordered to take my three regiments and advance to feel for him. At 10 a. m. I moved and found his line of pickets about 1¼ miles on our left front. The morning was spent in maneuvering and skirmishing, and finally the pressing of the enemy indicating an advance, I fell back, under orders, to the railroad, my left resting on the crossing of the turnpike and railroad, General Johnson's men on my right upon the railroad, and the Twenty-first Regiment in reserve in rear of my center and upon the turnpike. The enemy appeared at 2 p. m. in two lines of battle with skirmishers well thrown out and warmly engaged us. His line was oblique to mine and tending to overlap my left. After some half hour's fighting his second line was moved under cover of an intervening wood by right and appeared within musket-range, approaching square upon my left, the left of this force being upon the prolongation of my left. The Twenty-first Regiment had been ordered up into line upon my left in the beginning of the fight, and I was now compelled under a cross-fire from two brigades to change my front. This necessitated great exposure of officers in effecting, but was happily done, the lives of some of the best and bravest of my command, of all grades, paying for its accomplishment.

Soon after my new line was taken I ordered an advance, and the flanking brigade was driven back, not again reappearing in that direction. My men now regained the railroad, their right, however, rest-

ing where their left had been in the morning. The enemy now massed heavily in my front and again advanced, but my men, sheltered by the railroad embankment, drove them back with but little loss to ourselves and very heavy to them. Between 4 and 5 o'clock the engagement ceased, except the firing of sharpshooters on either side, and before dark the enemy withdrew from the field. I had an aggregate of 1,500 men engaged; the enemy at least two brigades. Our loss was 177, the enemy's estimated 1,000, and newspaper correspondents from the army of the enemy state that General Brooks, with five brigades and one battery of artillery, was in our front that day. In the action I was assisted at different times by two pieces of artillery sent to me at my request from the right, but they did me but little good, getting twice out of ammunition after very few discharges and going half a mile to the rear to replenish. In the close of the action they were not on the field. The Eleventh Regiment and Seventh Battalion arrived upon the battle-field after night-fall, having been delayed upon the cars in coming from South Carolina. At 12 o'clock that night our whole force at the Junction was withdrawn by General Johnson to the line of Swift Creek.

On the 9th I was ordered to take a part of my brigade and make a reconnaissance in front of this line. I took the Twenty-first, the Eleventh, and a detachment of the Twenty-fifth, under Captain Carson. The object was accomplished, but from the broken and wooded nature of the ground I became more heavily engaged than I desired with the heavy force in my front, and my loss was severe. I append a statement of casualties in those actions.

Out of 7 field officers taken into the action of the 7th, 4 were killed or wounded. The brave Lieutenant-Colonel Dargan, of the Twenty-first, fell at the head of his men in the crisis of the fight on that day. Colonel Graham was there wounded in two places while cheering on his men. Lieutenant-Colonel Pressley fell at the same place with a dangerous wound and refused assistance, ordering forward into line the men who came to take him off the field. Lieutenant-Colonel Blake, of the Twenty-seventh, was slightly wounded. Captain Sellers, of the Twenty-fifth, was wounded and returned to the fight after his wound was dressed.

My staff—Captain Molony, Lieutenant Martin, Lieutenant Mazyck, and Captain Stoney—were greatly exposed in the discharge of their duties and behaved with their usual gallantry. Captain Stoney was shot through the body, but still survives. Captain Carlos Tracy, of South Carolina, who was acting as volunteer aide upon my staff, behaved with much efficiency and gallantry.

Colonel Gaillard, Colonel Pressley, and Colonel Graham, commanding regiments, behaved with distinguished gallantry, and after the fall of the two latter, Major Glover and Lieutenant-Colonel Dargan did all that could be done in supplying their places. After Colonel Dargan was killed Captain Wilds efficiently commanded his regiment till the close of the day.

The following men have been mentioned for meritorious conduct by their regimental commanders: First Sergt. Pickens Butler Watts, Company F; Sergt. J. P. Gibbons and Corpl. J. Bosier, same company; Sergt. J. B. Abney, Company E, and Private Aemilius Irving, Company A, of Twenty-seventh Regiment, and Lieutenants Moffett and Due, Sergt. Willie V. Izlar, and Private Ira T. Shoemaker, of the Twenty-fifth. No report of the kind was received from the Twenty-first, in consequence of the fall of the field officers and the

succession of Captain Wilds to its command late in the action. There were, however, many instances of devotion in its ranks, and the bearing and service of Lieutenant Chappell conspicuously attracted the attention of the brigade commander.

Private Vincent Bellinger, a cripple from wounds received at Secessionville, and on light duty with the commissary, quit the train when he heard the action was going against us and came upon the field. Picking up the rifle of a fallen man he joined a company and fought well during the remainder of the day.

Respectfully,

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

Captain FOOTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Return of casualties in Hagood's (South Carolina) Brigade May 6 to 9, 1864.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	
May 6:										
21st South Carolina			1			24				25
25th South Carolina						5				5
Total			1			29				30
May 7:										
21st South Carolina			7			78				85
25th South Carolina			9			34		4	4	47
27th South Carolina			6			30		9	9	45
Total			22			142		13	13	177
May 9:										
11th South Carolina	1	13	14	1	38	39	2	10	12	65
21st South Carolina		5	5		13	13		5	5	23
25th South Carolina	2	9	11	3	26	29		7	7	47
27th South Carolina		1	1							1
7th South Carolina Battalion					1	1				1
Total	3	28	31	4	78	82	2	22	24	137
Grand total			54			253		37	344	

HDQRS. HAGOOD'S BRIG., SOUTH CAROLINA VOLS.,
May 22, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I am directed to submit a report of the part taken by my brigade in the battle of Drewry's Bluff of the 16th instant:

My command occupied the left of our second or intermediate line, embracing Fort Stevens, and with its right on the turnpike. The enemy occupied our exterior line of breast-works, which had been previously abandoned, supported by a battery of five pieces, where the turnpike crosses these works, with skirmishers well thrown out toward us. They had also constructed a second line of works in rear of this at some 200 yards distance, and had entangled the abatis between the two lines with wire.

Shortly after General Ransom's division had engaged the enemy on my left, and while his advance was still parallel to my line, I was ordered to advance and drive the enemy from our outer line of works. This was happily accomplished, under cover of the early daylight,

without serious loss, the brigade capturing the battery of five pieces before referred to and several prisoners. My men now occupied this outer line, a desultory exchange of shots going on between it and the enemy's second line of works. Three companies of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, on my extreme right, were also at this time thrown back perpendicular to my front, to assist by a flank fire Johnson's brigade, which was driving the enemy from the portion of the outer line on my right.

General Ransom's division had now, in accordance with the plan of battle, advanced some 300 yards in front of my left and was pivoting upon its right, to sweep the enemy by a flank attack from the woods and works in front of our center. At this time I was ordered by the division commander to change front forward to the right and form line of battle parallel to the turnpike. In accomplishing this, my left drove the enemy from that portion of their second line of works, which it struck, and the whole movement was much impeded by the abatis and wire entanglement referred to. I now held the turnpike with my line at right angles to the general line of battle, General Ransom's division advancing in echelon full 800 yards upon and in rear of my left; the enemy firing obliquely upon my rear from the woods between General Ransom and myself, and I was immediately attacked by a heavy force in my front. The position was obstinately held, in the hope that the advance of the division on my left and the brigade on my right would relieve me. Seeing, however, that the brigade was suffering severely, and the regiment on the left having, under orders of its colonel (properly given under the circumstances), begun to retire from the heavy pressure of the enemy upon its flank, I directed the resumption of our former position, behind our outer line of works. The enemy almost immediately retreated from my immediate front.

Subsequently my brigade was put in position to protect the right flank of the division from an apprehended attack, which did not occur, and Colonel Gaillard's regiment (Twenty-seventh) was detached to assist General Ransom's farther advance down the general line of battle.

The brigade generally behaved with a steadiness and gallantry that was extremely gratifying. Colonel Gantt, Colonel Gaillard, Lieutenant-Colonel Nelson, Major Glover, and Captain Wilds, commanding regiments, discharged their duty with marked ability. Major Rion, of the Seventh South Carolina Battalion, and Captain Brooks, of the same, behaved with conspicuous gallantry, continuing with their commands, the former throughout the day, and the latter until I ordered him to the rear after he had received three severe wounds. The severity of the fire of the enemy is illustrated by the fact that fifty-seven bullet marks were found upon the flag of the Seventh Battalion South Carolina Volunteers, after the fight, and in one of its companies there were 65 casualties, of which 19 were killed outright. The general list of casualties appended will show that the losses of this battalion were scarcely exceptional.

My staff—Captain Molony and Lieutenants Mazyck and Martin—behaved with great gallantry and marked efficiency. They were all dismounted by the enemy's fire during the fight. Captain Molony having a second horse, which he obtained during the day, killed. I also desire to mention for meritorious conduct, coming under my immediate observation, the name of Private J. K. Williams, of the Twenty-seventh. The casualties of the brigade were 433. Its field

return of the preceding day was 2,235. I append a list of names mentioned for gallantry by regimental commanders, many of which came also under my observation.

A number of prisoners were captured by the brigade, but as they were hurried immediately to the rear, I can only estimate the number loosely at 300, including several officers. The battery captured consisted of three Napoleons and two 20-pounder Parrotts, fully equipped, and was turned over to Colonel Waddy, with a request that it be assigned to Captain Owen, of the Washington Artillery, whose fire assisted us materially in its capture.

I am, captain, respectfully,

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Captain ADAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Officers and men mentioned for gallant conduct by regimental commanders.

In Twentysseventh Regiment South Carolina Volunteers: Lieutenant Gelling, Company C, acting adjutant; Color Bearer Tupper; Private H. P. Foster, Company D, of color guard; First Sergt. Pickens B. Watts, Company F.

In Seventh Battalion South Carolina Volunteers: Sergt. J. H. Outz, Company H, color-bearer, killed.

In Eleventh Regiment South Carolina Volunteers: Lieut. H. W. G. Bowman, Company B; Color-Sergeant Hickman, Privates J. Jones, A. P. Bulger, and G. W. Hicks, Company K; A. Mixson, Company F.

In Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers: Privates W. A. Dotterer, Company A, and Wise, Company F; Sergt. Benjamin P. Izlar, Private Ira T. Shoemaker, Company G; Sergt. H. J. Greer, Company B.

No. 101.

Report of Col. Robert F. Graham, Twenty-first South Carolina Infantry, of operations May 6.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FIRST SOUTH CAROLINA VOLS.,
Port Walthall Junction, May 7, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I arrived at Petersburg on yesterday, the 6th instant, with three companies of the Twenty-first South Carolina Volunteers and three companies of the Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers, numbering about 300 men; that I was immediately ordered with this force to Port Walthall Junction by Major-General Pickett, with instructions to defend the railroad at that point. I arrived at the Junction at about 4.45 p. m., and there found 300 men of the Twenty-first South Carolina Volunteers, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Dargan, who had arrived there from Drewry's Bluff about one hour previous. I discovered soon after arriving that the enemy were in heavy force in front. I immediately chose my position and formed my line of battle some 300 yards east of the railroad. I had hardly formed my line when I was attacked by a force estimated to be at least two brigades, with several pieces of artillery. They were driven back in confusion. They again formed for an attack and attempted to turn my left flank.

Perceiving this I sent all my force that could be spared to this point. They were met with such a deadly fire that they retreated in confusion from the field, leaving some of their dead and wounded on the field.

I cannot fail to mention the gallant conduct of both officers and men.

The right of the line was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Dargan and the left by Major Glover, Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers. I lost in this action 35 men—2 killed and 28 wounded of the Twenty-first South Carolina Volunteers and 5 wounded of the Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. F. GRAHAM,
Colonel, Comdg. Twenty-first South Carolina Volunteers.

Capt. P. K. MOLONY, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 102.

Report of Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, C. S. Army, commanding division, of operations May 16–17.

HEADQUARTERS, *Petersburg, May* 19, 1864.

GENERAL: I respectfully forward the following report of the operations of troops under my command on 16th and 17th:

At 11 a. m. on 15th I received in cipher the following order, dated Drewry's Bluff, May 15, 1864, 12.15 a. m.:*

GENERAL: I shall attack enemy in my front to-morrow at daylight by river road, to cut him off from his Bermuda base. You will take up your position to-night on Swift Creek, with Wise's, Martin's, Dearing's brigades and two regiments of Colquitt's, with about twenty pieces under Colonel Jones. At daybreak you will march to Port Walthall Junction, and when you hear an engagement in your front you will advance boldly and rapidly by shortest road in direction of heaviest firing to attack enemy in rear or flank. You will protect your advance and flanks with Dearing's cavalry, taking necessary precautions to distinguish friends from foes.† This revokes all former orders for movements.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

I at once caused Wise's brigade, then on city lines, to move to Swift Creek. As but one regiment of Colquitt's was present it was brigaded with General Martin. General Dearing's brigade of cavalry, which had gone in pursuit of the enemy under Kautz, was recalled. Not having infantry enough for twenty pieces, and the horses of some of the batteries not being in very good condition, I left the most for the protection of the city and Swift Creek, and ordered Colonel Jones with ten guns for the expedition. Having made all the arrangements in my power for the protection of the city and the various lines of railroad threatened on all sides by the enemy, I reached Swift Creek by daylight and at once commenced the movement. General Wise was ordered to lead, the artillery in his rear, and General Martin following. The enemy's outpost pickets were met within half a mile of the bridge on the turnpike road, and General Wise put out his skirmishers to clear the way. On reaching the first right-hand road General Martin was ordered with two regiments to move parallel to the column on the railroad, and

* 10.45 a. m. See Beauregard's report, p. 300.
† See dispatch as quoted by General Beauregard, p. 300.

this route passing by Mrs. Dunn's house to the enemy's position within a short distance, General Dearing was instructed to cover our right with Griffin's cavalry and the left with Taliaferro's regiment, and then with his main body to effect a junction by the left with the general commanding. The column moved forward, skirmishing at the head all the way from Timberry Creek until the vicinity of the Junction was reached, where we were met by artillery and a stubborn resistance. Two pieces of artillery from Read's battalion were brought up and thrown to the right near Craig's house. The enemy commanding both the Junction and the turnpike, two were pushed along the turnpike and four placed by Colonel Jones well to the left to bear on the enemy's position. Martin's brigade was directed to take the railroad to the right, and Wise to do the same in front. In a short time the troops drove the enemy across Bake-House Creek, and line of battle was formed at Walthall Junction in order described.

When thus formed near 11 o'clock I had reached the point designated in my orders, whence I was to march as soon as I heard the sound of an engagement in my front. Nothing had been heard to indicate any such occurrence. No information of any sort reached me from Drewry's Bluff. Ignorant of the movements of the general and of the enemy, I was wholly unacquainted with the locality. Could I have been aware, or have divined what has been subsequently learned, the information contained in the general's dispatches of 9.15 and of 4.15, I could have spared my troops the harassing skirmishes which ensued, and resting until afternoon could have taken a good part in last movement, but unfortunately I knew nothing.

Having sent a dispatch to inform you of my position, I ordered Generals Wise and Martin to clear the way from Bake-House Creek, which they were holding in my front. Martin, on the right, and Wise, on the left, moved up in the direction of the supposed line of the enemy, they slowly retiring until we occupied the ground near what is called the burnt house and the fields beyond. I had directed at the same time the cavalry under Colonel Taliaferro to go up the turnpike road and the right hand fork to see if he could find out anything. Here shortly an unfortunate occurrence took place, which much delayed me and increased my subsequent embarrassment. Being on the right of the line I was surprised to see the whole of General Wise's double line of skirmishes falling back at once, their right on the passes of Bake-House Creek and their left on the turnpike, the cavalry at the same time rapidly coming back down the turnpike. The report was rapidly spread that the enemy in heavy force was moving down the turnpike on our left and rear. I learned since that some one, I know not who, ordered the lines back, for I am satisfied these troops would never move back of their own accord. Considerable confusion was created, much increased by a severe and drenching rain which fell at the time. Martin's brigade remained in position, but his skirmishers were recalled. It was some time before the line could be reformed, and in the mean time the enemy, who were evidently in observation, advanced to near Bake-House Creek. He was forced to withdraw by artillery, and the line was again made.

By this time the afternoon was far advanced, and I was still without any tidings from the main battle, of which nothing could be heard. Reports commenced coming in which greatly embarrassed

me. Colonel Griffin, on my right, reported indication of a diversion by the enemy on the opposite side. At Red Bluff information was received of the advance of a large force toward the city from the superintendent of the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad, and also a dispatch from General Colston forwarding similar information, while shortly after a message reached me from the cavalry on my left that the enemy were moving in that direction with infantry and artillery. While preparations and new dispositions of Wise's troops were being made for this, General Hill went over to the left to ascertain. It is possible this was a movement caused by General Dearing's successful attack in that direction, but of that, at the time, I was ignorant. It was evident that the enemy, resting in his works, was in observation on my right flank as I advanced, falling back to his lines as I moved on the turnpike, passing to the right and rear. A reconnaissance by General Pryor informed me that the line of what was evidently a moving force extended from the right-hand road at considerable distance from the Junction toward their fortifications. I felt myself in much perplexity called upon to decide whether I should, in spite of all reports, cut loose from Petersburg and move forward in absolute ignorance of even the fact that the general had made his proposed movements and the position of the main body of the enemy, or whether, the day being far spent, I should not take up a position from whence, when I learned the movement of the general, I could move early enough to aid the next day, or, if needed, be in place to defend Petersburg. At any rate, the Junction was no place to stay at. I ordered the troops of General Wise to move to the rear, to be followed by General Martin, intending at night to bivouac at Swift Creek, where the men had left their knapsacks and where their rations would be.

I then received the dispatch dated Fort Stevens, informing me for the first time of the movement of the early morning. General Dearing himself met me. (See his report.*) He had most gallantly performed his work, capturing 220 prisoners on his route, communicating with the general, and returning. He made me acquainted as far as he knew with the condition of affairs up to 1 o'clock, and I halted my troops. It was then too late for me to do anything, as long before I could reach either the right of our people or the retreat of the enemy darkness set in.

At 7.15 p. m. I received the general's dispatch of 4.15 p. m., to which I replied, "Too late for action on my part." The troops were then directed to their bivouac on the creek. My personal presence was absolutely required in Petersburg, and not having to clear the road, I hoped to be able to join the general readily on the 17th.

The conduct of the troops, officers and men, was most praiseworthy. Generals Wise and Martin, Colonel Jones, and Major Read were prompt and skillful in the disposition of their commands. Whatever was accomplished was due to the advice and ability of General Hill on the field, and very active, but not in command. General Dearing particularly distinguished himself by a brilliant attack upon the enemy at Chester.

At 3 a. m. on the 17th (still without rest) I received your dispatch directing a junction and a movement at daylight, and proceeded at once to the troops. They moved out, after some consultation with the generals, under the command of General D. H. Hill, I having relinquished it to him in consequence of the dissatisfaction expressed

*Not found.

by Generals Wise and Martin with my movements and orders of the preceding day, deeming that harmony of action was to be preferred at that time to any personal consideration, and feeling at the time—as, indeed, I had felt for twenty-four hours—physically unfit for action. The junction was effected between 9 and 10, the enemy having retired to his fortifications in the night.

I give here the statement of the movements as they recur to me. I had no staff officers at all to keep the record of events or of time; no appliances required by a general in the field; no one to aid me in the direction of movements, except the volunteer services of Colonel Paul, for whose aid I am very grateful. My single aide-de-camp, Captain Strong, I was obliged to post in the rear to receive and forward the dispatches continually arriving from Petersburg. The above is simply a statement of the movements of the troops, with little or no explanation. It contains but a small part of the circumstances materially affecting my action. I think I could and would have effected more had I not considered myself bound by my orders to control my movements by my knowledge of an engagement in my front. In the absence of any information until too late of even that of firing, I did not feel justified in pushing with a small force in an unknown country between an enemy represented so strong and his fortifications unless I could feel certain he was actually engaged with our main body. Aware, however, that while much was expected of me, and in this case I have unfortunately accomplished but little, I desire to submit in addition to the report the following statement, not in excuse, but in explanation, if it should be thought that I had erred:

Called suddenly while in bad health from Wilmington by a telegraphic dispatch, simply desiring me to confer with the general, I came at once, attended by a single aide, and totally unprepared with anything for service out of my command. I was placed in charge not only of Petersburg, a threatened city, but the whole Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia. This was at 10 o'clock on the 13th, the day of my arrival. That night and the 14th and 15th the railroad communications were cut on every side. The city was menaced from different points. It was uncertain whether the enemy, having secured his base, would make Drewry's Bluff or this city his objective point. Either was vital to Richmond. The number of troops was inadequate to the defense of widely extended lines, covering one of the most important and yet one of the weakest points in the country. The barrier on the north of the city was almost nothing. The confusion was indescribable. The late commanding general was very ill; the subordinate district commander but just arrived, like myself, on the 14th and 15th; the orders of pressing nature from Richmond and my commanding general were contradictory and embarrassing, as may be seen by comparison; at the time most needed communication was very hazardous and conducted in tedious cipher; add that I was entirely ignorant of localities as not to know my way through the streets. From what I could see and learn of the position, Petersburg was at the mercy of the enemy.

Under these circumstances, harassed with department business, without having taken off my clothes from the time of my arrival, or having been able to secure an hour's rest, I left my office before day on the morning of the 16th to conduct an expedition into a district entirely unknown to me or my troops, without a staff, without topo-

graphical engineers, without a reconnaissance, with no knowledge of the enemy's position, with a hurried and imperfect organization, not to defend a known and threatened point, but to attack an enemy of unknown strength in his own position, and upon contingencies which might or might not obtain. I do not think I should be held responsible for the escape of the enemy, for even with more information and under different orders I do not see how my force could have accomplished that. I can see now after the event how I might have done much more toward the defeat of the enemy. I add, only in explanation of action unlooked for on my part, and of which my career gives no warrant, that the painful condition of my system—previously ill and at the time disordered by absolute want of sleep for a long time, and personal labor due to want of officers—would, no doubt, have incapacitated me from acting with correct judgment and decision in a less difficult case. This condition was much aggravated by my exertions during the day, my personal attention to all parts of the field, the peculiar terms of my orders, the absence of information, and especially by constant and harassing reports from Petersburg and from my flanks. I say this not to excuse, but to account both for what I have done and not done.

I must also add that conscious of this disordered condition of my whole system, body and mind, I could not and do not blame Generals Wise and Martin for their expressions on the morning of the 17th, and I felt it my duty to relinquish the command to General Hill for the public good, knowing him to be thoroughly competent, as well as my superior. As statements of this kind in an official report should not be mere assertions, I beg you will, if you think necessary, have an inquiry made as to what I have said in explanation. I can only say that, viewed in any way, from your first telegraphic dispatch of the 11th instant until now, I have been and am most unfortunate.*

[W. H. C. WHITING.]

[General G. T. BEAUREGARD.]

ADDENDA.

NEAR PETERSBURG, VA., *August* 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
Comdg. Third Military District, Wilmington, N. C.:

GENERAL: Your letter of August 11 would have received more prompt attention had not my time been wholly engrossed by public duties which forbade the consideration of private matters, either my own or those of others. So far as I can relieve you from undue censure with regard to your course on May 16, when charged with your important part of the programme of operations for that day, I cordially do so. Taking the special reports named by yourself as those which have most grieved you, it gives me pleasure to say that I did not place you under arrest nor deprive you of your sword on the field of battle, and that you were not absent from the field. I would if I could give as emphatic a negative to the other reports you mention. I can not do so, however, general, except so far as may be legitimately inferred from the conclusion reached and expressed in my official report. The language of my official report is as follows:

The more glorious results anticipated were lost by the hesitation of the left wing and the premature halt of the Petersburg column before obstacles, in neither case sufficient to have deterred from the execution of the movements prescribed.

* The remainder of this report is missing.

This language is as mild as the circumstances would permit me to use. It was framed, in fact, in a spirit of kindness to yourself, allowing all possible weight to the embarrassments mentioned in your official report, as well as to the physical exhaustion under which you labored. It is the nearest approach to censure contained in my report, which ignores the operations of your column during that day almost entirely, purposely because it failed to attempt, not to accomplish, the vital part assigned it in the operations proposed.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

No. 103.

Report of Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of casualties May 16–20.

HEADQUARTERS WISE'S BRIGADE,
May 21, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I beg respectfully to report the following casualties in my brigade:

Command.	May 16.		May 18.		May 19.		May 20	
	Killed.	Wounded	Killed	Wounded	Killed	Wounded	Killed	Wounded
26th Virginia Regiment		4	2	16		3		25
34th Virginia Regiment	4	8	2	29			3	36
46th Virginia Regiment	3	9		3			3	19
59th Virginia Regiment		2		1			1	7
Total	7	23	4	49	3	7	87	

Respectfully,

HENRY A. WISE,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. C. MCRAE SELPH,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

No. 104.

Report of Capt. George D. Wise, Assistant Inspector-General, of operations June 2.

HEADQUARTERS WISE'S BRIGADE,
June 3, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that all was quiet on our lines on the 1st instant, and no firing of any kind, except the artillery firing from our lines, which commenced about 11 p. m. This firing was not replied to by the enemy.

Orders were received about 1 o'clock on the morning of the 2d instant for our whole line of skirmishers to move upon the enemy and drive them into their main works, and to take them, if it could be done without the loss of too many men. In obedience to this order, our line of skirmishers moved upon the enemy about 7 a. m. yester-

day, and soon drove them from the rifle-pits occupied by their pickets, and continued to drive them over a second line of rifle-pits for about three-quarters of a mile, and would have continued to drive them into their main works if an order had not come down from the right ordering them to fall back to the first line of rifle-pits from which they drove the enemy. They immediately fell back to this line, but as soon as Major-General Johnson was informed of the order to fall back he ordered Wise's and Johnson's brigades to move forward some 300 yards to a small redoubt thrown up by the enemy on a road leading to Ware Bottom Church, and establish a line of rifle-ditches from that point to the James River, and he also directed that the left of Ransom's brigade should be thrown forward, so as to connect our new line with theirs. This order was at once executed, and we now have a very fine, continuous rifle-ditch along the whole of our front, which completely covers our pickets.

The casualties in the brigade yesterday and last night were 3 officers wounded (1 mortally), 9 men killed, and 46 wounded. Three of this number were wounded by picket-fire last night. The officer of the picket reports that the Yankee picket kept up a fire upon our pickets all night, and that he did not allow our men to fire any more than he could possibly help. There were 29 Yankees captured by this brigade yesterday during the engagement. Our pickets report this morning that they have been beyond where the enemy had their vedette posts yesterday, but could see nothing of the enemy. They did not go to their rifle-ditch, but were in sight of it and could see no Yankees at all.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE D. WISE,
Captain and Assistant Inspector-General.

Maj. G. O. WATTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 105.

Report of Col. William B. Tabb, Fifty-ninth Virginia Infantry, of operations May 8.

HEADQUARTERS,
Nottoway Bridge, Va., May 9, 1864.

CAPTAIN: When I arrived with my regiment at Hicksford on the 7th instant I found there General Beauregard's telegram directing me to proceed to Stony Creek and defend the railroad bridge at that point.

I reached this place about sunset the same day, and learned from citizens and from stragglers from Major Zeigler's command that the enemy had burned Stony Creek bridge and were rapidly advancing in this direction. A few minutes afterward a detachment of cavalry, about 500 strong, appeared in my front and made dispositions as if for an attack. Soon after dark they withdrew in a southeasterly direction.

About 8 a. m. on the 8th I discovered a long train of wagons passing in my front along the Halifax road toward Jarratt's Depot. The force at my disposal numbered 600 in the aggregate, consisting of the Fifty-ninth Virginia, two companies (Captain Street's and Captain

Owens') of the Twenty-sixth Virginia Regiment, and Captain Bost's company (C), Holcombe Legion Infantry, South Carolina Volunteers. Earlier in the morning firing had been heard at Jarratt's Station. Supposing the 500 men I had seen the evening before to be the enemy's rear guard and baggage escort, I detached 300 men from the Fifty-ninth Virginia and moved with them to a point on the Halifax road 2 miles distant, in the hope of intercepting them. In this I did not succeed. The train passed the point I was making for before I could reach it.

From a prisoner I learned that General Kautz, with 3,000 cavalry and two batteries of artillery, was taking up a position at Chambliss' house and preparing for an immediate attack on Nottoway bridge. I made all possible haste to return to the support of Lieutenant-Colonel Jones, who had been left in command of the force at the bridge. I had established my command on the south side of the river, along a railroad embankment, which effectually protected them from the fire of the artillery in front. Capt. H. Wood, of the Fifty-ninth Virginia Regiment, with 35 men, was posted at Parham's Crossing, 1 mile south of the bridge, on the road leading from Halifax road to Green Church bridge. A line of skirmishers connected this detachment with the main body. The enemy commenced shelling Colonel Jones while I was on my way from the Halifax road. At the same time an effort was made to break through the line of skirmishers. The detachment which I had carried to the Halifax road arrived in time to meet and repel this attack with considerable loss to the enemy. Almost simultaneously a vigorous assault was made on my extreme right. This was handsomely repulsed by Captain Wood. The enemy rallied and renewed the attack at this point with a regiment of cavalry (dismounted) and one piece of artillery. Captain Wood was overpowered, and, after a very creditable resistance, was obliged to give way.

Finding myself largely outnumbered, and the enemy having turned my right flank and gained my rear, I had no alternative but to cross the bridge and take a position on the north side of the river. This I accordingly did, and occupied a small redoubt about 300 yards from the bridge. This movement involved the loss of the bridge, but was the only one by which I could avoid the unavailing sacrifice of my whole command. The enemy pressed me closely and attempted to follow me. They crossed the bridge and advanced a short distance toward the redoubt, but were driven back, leaving their dead and wounded on the field. They succeeded, however, in firing the bridge. Maj. P. H. Fitzhugh, commanding the two companies of the Twenty-sixth Virginia, gallantly volunteered to take 20 men and extinguish it. By the time he reached it, however, the flames had made such headway that they could not be suppressed. After burning the bridge the enemy rapidly retired beyond range, leaving some of their dead and wounded on the south side of the bridge also.

After the action Lieutenant-Colonel Stetzel, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, was sent under a flag of truce to propose an exchange of prisoners. I assented to the proposition, with the condition that all the wounded left on the field—Confederates and Abolitionists—should be regarded as in my hands. Under this agreement, I recovered Lieutenant Talley, Fifty-ninth Virginia, and 4 men, and liberated Lieutenant [Corporal?] Jackson, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and the same number of men, all the prisoners I had.

Last night General Kautz was joined by the detachment which went to Jarratt's Station, and early this morning the whole force moved in the direction of Sussex Court-House.

The force in my front yesterday numbered from 2,500 to 3,000 cavalry, consisting of the First District of Columbia, the Third and Seventh New York, the Fifth and Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiments, and six pieces of artillery.

My loss in the action was 3 killed, 22 wounded, and 20 missing. Among the wounded are Lieut. Col. Joseph Jones, Capt. J. W. Maddux, Lieut. J. J. Bryant, and Lieut. N. Talley, of the Fifty-ninth Virginia. Of the enemy's loss I have no accurate information. They left 15 dead and 2 wounded on the field. They are known to have suffered severely. The officers and men generally behaved well throughout this affair, which lasted three hours. Among those most conspicuous were Lieut. Col. Joseph Jones, Fifty-ninth Virginia; Maj. P. H. Fitzhugh, Twenty-sixth Virginia; Capt. J. P. Barksdale, Fifty-ninth Virginia, and Lieut. J. W. Hundley, Twenty-sixth Virginia. Major Fitzhugh deserves special praise and thanks for his signal gallantry throughout the action. I regret that I can only mention Lieut. J. W. Hundley, Twenty-sixth Virginia, Sergt. D. J. Traynham, Company E, and Private John Y. Tabb, Company B, Fifty-ninth Virginia, among those who volunteered with Major Fitzhugh to rescue the bridge while exposed to the fire of the enemy's guns. There are many others equally entitled to thanks whose names I cannot ascertain, many of them from Company A, Fifty-ninth Virginia Regiment.

On this occasion, as on all others where an opportunity has been offered them, the men of this company furnished many brilliant examples of most intrepid daring and devoted heroism.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. TABB,
Colonel, Comdg. Fifty-ninth Virginia Regiment.

Capt. JOHN M. OTEY, *Asst. Adjt. Gen.*

No. 106.

Report of Brig. Gen. James G. Martin, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of casualties May 20.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing
17th North Carolina Regiment:			
Officers		3	
Non-commissioned officers		3	
Privates	6	35	1
15th North Carolina Regiment			
Officers		2	
Non-commissioned officers	1	4	
Privates	5	42	
50th North Carolina Regiment:			
Officers		2	
Non-commissioned officers		2	
Privates	1	9	a7
Total	13	102	8

aSupposed to be killed, as no prisoners were taken by the enemy.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. G. MARTIN,
Brigadier-General.

No. 107.

Report of Maj. Alexander W. Stark, Stark's Battalion Virginia Artillery, of the capture of the U. S. gun-boat Shawsheen, at Turkey Island, May 7.

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION LIGHT ARTILLERY,
Taylor's Farm, near Chaffin's, May 8, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to instructions on the evening of the 6th instant I proceeded with eight pieces of artillery, manned by Armistead's and French's batteries, in company with a detachment from the Twenty-fifth Battalion Virginia Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Elliott commanding, in the direction of Deep Bottom, to attack the enemy's gun-boats reported off that point. A halt was made at Sweeny's until the exact position of the boats could be known. At sunrise on yesterday it was ascertained that about thirteen vessels, seven being iron-clads, were anchored abreast of Curl's Neck Swamp, or Marsh, and could not be approached within 2 miles. About 10 a. m. a gun-boat was observed at anchor near Turkey Island plantation, engaged in burning barns, houses, &c. Five 12-pounder Napoleons and one 12-pounder howitzer were moved down and placed in position and opened upon the steamer, which surrendered in about ten minutes. The vessel proved to be the gun-boat Shawsheen, armed with one 30-pounder Parrott, one 20-pounder Parrott, and one 12-pounder Dahlgren howitzer, and manned by about 35 men. The prisoners, to the number of 27, were immediately landed, and the boat destroyed to prevent her recapture by two iron-clads that were rapidly bearing down upon us. No casualties occurred on our side. The artillery returned to camp last evening.

Respectfully submitted.

A. W. STARK,
Major, Commanding Artillery.

Capt. C. F. LINTHICUM,
Assistant Adjutant-General.
(Through Lieut. Col. Elliott, comdg. 25th Batt. Va. Infty.)

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
May 20, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

This affair reflects credit upon the parties concerned, and it gives me pleasure to bring to the favorable notice of the Department Major Stark, commanding battalion of artillery.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

No. 108.

Report of Brig. Gen. Stephen Elliott, jr., C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of operations June 2.

HEADQUARTERS ELLIOTT'S BRIGADE,
June 2, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in pursuance of orders, I pushed forward at sunrise this morning a strong line of skirmishers along the entire front of my brigade in the direction of the enemy's

works. That portion of the line resting on Ashton Creek and extending to the center of the Seventeenth South Carolina Volunteers, after advancing nearly a mile, found itself on the right of the batteries seen from the Ashbrooke house, and at right angles to the enemy's line, which trends off to the river in a line perpendicular to our intrenchments. These skirmishers met no enemy. The skirmishers in front of the left wing of the Seventeenth South Carolina Volunteers advanced a little over half a mile, encountered a strong picket of the enemy, drove it in, killing 5 men, taking 2 prisoners, and suffering a loss of 2 wounded, and then retreated before a regiment of infantry which was moved on its right flank. The line in front of the Twenty-second South Carolina Volunteers (the left of the brigade) advanced upon the works seen from the Ashbrooke house, driving in the pickets, occupying a portion of the rifle-pits, a part of it coming within 100 yards of the enemy's works. A heavy column of infantry having advanced from the enemy's intrenchments, our skirmishers at the front retired, bringing away 17 prisoners, having suffered in killed, wounded, and missing a loss of 2 commissioned officers and 30 privates.

I regret to say that Col. O. M. Dantzler, Twenty-second South Carolina Volunteers, fell mortally wounded while gallantly leading his men up to the enemy's breast-works, and that he was left in the hands of the enemy. The line of skirmishers was subsequently ordered by me to reoccupy its former position, to which it fell back in good order. The engagement of this morning shows that the enemy still occupies the works in our front with a strong force of artillery and infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STEPHEN ELLIOTT, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. R. E. FOOTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 109.

Reports of Capt. W. L. Trenholm, Seventh South Carolina Cavalry, of operations May 15–16.

HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON CAVALRY,
Tom Hinton Creek, Dinwiddie County, Va., May 16, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that my command reached this point yesterday evening at 9 o'clock. I sent forward from Blacks and Whites two scouting parties, each in charge of an officer, one to follow the line of the South Side Railroad and the other on the route taken by the enemy. Both parties returned about daylight this morning, the latter bringing the intelligence that the enemy crossed the Nottoway at Gill's Bridge yesterday at 3 p. m.; tore up the bridge. The party of the Fifth South Carolina Cavalry crossed at the next bridge below, having sent information on to Petersburg by a courier furnished them from my party. Dr. Jones, of Brunswick County, came into my camp last night to report the enemy at his uncle's plantation, 5 miles from Gill's Bridge, west, i. e., toward Lunenburg Court-House. I have this morning sent two parties, each under an officer,

of which one must come up with the enemy to-day. This being a central point, I shall await further information before leaving it, but will have a courier stand at Blacks and Whites. If there were a telegraph station there it would contribute much toward the embarrassment of the enemy.

It is rumored that General Dearing (Confederate) with his cavalry brigade is near Petersburg, waiting an opportunity to come up with Kautz.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. TRENHOLM,
Captain, Commanding.

Capt. G. B. LAMAR,
Aide-de-Camp, Burkeville.

I think Dearing is only a colonel, and has but a regiment.

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HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON CAVALRY,
Blacks and Whites, May 16, 1864—p. m.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, upon information received from Mr. Crenshaw, the railroad agent at this place, who rode post after me with it, that the enemy had certainly encamped at Jonesborough last night, and had there burned the mill known as Crallis'. I returned here with my command to await advices from my scouting parties. Had there been any other cavalry between Jonesborough and the Danville railroad, I should have gone on south of the Nottaway, but under existing circumstances considered it imprudent to run any risk whatever of not being able to get between the enemy and the railroad, should he turn in that direction. It now appears that Mr. Crenshaw's information was not correct, but that the enemy have marched with great rapidity directly to Lawrenceville, where they encamped last night, and that this morning they went on toward Belfield, leaving Lawrenceville at 8 o'clock. I had written this much when, expecting a courier from my own scouts, I delayed the letter to send the information so received. General McLaws' courier has now arrived with his letter. My dispatch of 6 o'clock was written: "The enemy did not encamp in this vicinity last night, but at Lawrenceville," &c., and I regret that it was not correctly rendered. The only information I have so far is from citizens, except that a courier from the party of the Fifth South Carolina, who are following the enemy, passed here at dark and told me that their whole force encamped at Lawrenceville and left there at 8 o'clock this morning, in the direction of Belfield. I have received no report yet from my scouts, but have heard from others of their whereabouts, one party on each side of the enemy's route. I therefore infer that the enemy must be marching directly forward and that neither party has yet come up with him.

It is certain that no force of the enemy encamped at Jonesborough last night, and that no mills were burned by them in that vicinity. I have been able to find no one now who will own having originated the story of their movement toward Lunenburg, and have no intelligence of their being in that county, beyond the information received this morning from Mr. Crenshaw, which now is ascertained to have been incorrect. The moment I receive anything certain I will forward it with the utmost speed, but having suffered the morti-

fication of so seriously misleading the major-general commanding once, by accepting the statement of private persons, even the most reliable, I am loath to forward hastily reports not from a source which I know.

Very respectfully, captain, your obedient servant,

W. L. TRENHOLM,
Captain, Commanding.

Capt. G. B. LAMAR,
Aide-de-Camp, Burkeville.

No. 110.

Report of Lieut. Col. Wyatt M. Elliott, Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion, Hunton's brigade, of the capture of the U. S. gun-boat Shawsheen, at Turkey Island, May 7.

CAMP 25TH BATTALION VIRGINIA VOL. INFTY.,
Chaffin's Farm, May 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the expedition organized by the commanding general, composed of a detachment of artillery, under Major Stark, and a detachment of four companies from my command, in support of the same, proceeded on the errand assigned it Friday evening, and that the whole have returned to camp, having as far as possible accomplished the objects of the expedition.

About 12 m. to-day the command encountered the gun-boat Shawsheen off Turkey Island, she having either incautiously or defiantly approached the position taken by the command, dropping anchor at a point within easy range for effective execution by the artillery and co-operating infantry, which opened upon her with such telling effect as to drive the gunners from their pieces and prevented resistance after the first discharge of the same. Very speedily the vessel was completely disabled by the excellent fire of Major Stark's artillery, and though reluctantly, she nevertheless hauled down her colors and displayed the white flag in token of surrender. A boat was dispatched to enforce the delivery of the prisoners on board, the enemy's boats being made available to bring them off. The officer was also instructed to fire the vessel, which was effectively done, the fire quickly reaching the magazine, exploding it, consigning all to the wind and waves. The immediate approach of two iron-clads, against which we were not prepared to contend, prevented the removal of anything from the vessel save the prisoners.

During the engagement many jumped overboard and attempted to escape to the opposite side of the river, the larger portion of whom were killed by the infantry firing among them, it is thought Ensign Sargot, commanding, being of the number. Not more than 5 made their escape. The number of prisoners taken is 37, one of them being slightly wounded and now in brigade hospital. The crew is reported to have numbered between 40 and 50. She carried three guns—one 30 and one 20 pounder Parrott, and one 12-pounder howitzer (Dahlgren). It may be counted a matter of satisfaction that the vessel was so summarily and effectually destroyed, since we had information deemed satisfactory that it was a party from this vessel who had an hour before fired the barn and corn-houses of Mr. Robert Taylor, adjoining.

It affords satisfaction to report that in this affair the troops engaged under my command were fully equal to the requirements of the occasion, and I desire especially to commend the excellent performance of the artillery under Maj. A. W. Stark, who did everything which the occasion demanded of them with energy and promptness. There is occasion also for thankfulness that in this affair we sustained no loss whatever.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. M. ELLIOTT,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. C. F. LINTHICUM,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 24, 1864.—Action at Wilson's Wharf, Va.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Edward W. Hinks, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps.

No. 3.—Brig. Gen. Edward A. Wild, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade.

No. 4.—Lieut. Julius M. Swain, Signal Officer, U. S. Army.

No. 1.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
May 25, 1864—7.30 a. m. (Received 5 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, lately promoted, made, with cavalry, infantry, and artillery, an attack upon my post at Wilson's Wharf, north side of James River, below Fort Powhatan, garrisoned by two regiments, all negro troops, Brigadier-General Wild commanding, and was handsomely repulsed. Before the attack Lee sent a flag, stating he had force enough to take the place, demanded its surrender, and in that case the garrison should be turned over to the authorities at Richmond as prisoners of war, but if this proposition was rejected he would not be answerable for consequences when he took the place. General Wild replied, "We will try that." Re-enforcements were at once sent, but fight was over before their arrival. Loss not yet reported. Dispatch relating to Lee being over South Anna received. Will be ready to move on the instant.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS.
May 25, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 9 p. m.)

General Fitzhugh Lee abandoned his attack on our post on Wilson's Wharf during the night, having completely failed. He lost 20 killed, whom he left on the ground in our hands. Among these is re-

ported Major Breckinridge, of the Second Virginia Cavalry. He removed his wounded. We took 19 prisoners from him. Our own loss is 1 man killed, 20 wounded, and 2 missing. The defense was commanded by Brigadier-General Wild in person, commanding a force of 1,800 men, all of whom were negroes.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

No. 2.

Report of Brig. Gen. Edward W. Hinks, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
City Point, Va., May 25, 1864.

GENERAL: All is now quiet at Wilson's Wharf, the enemy having abandoned the attack during the night. Our loss is 1 man killed, 20 wounded, and 2 missing. The enemy's loss, Major Breckinridge, of the Second Virginia Cavalry, and about 30 men killed and left on the ground; 19 prisoners. Their wounded were removed.

E. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina.

No. 3.

Report of Brig. Gen. Edward A. Wild, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
Wilson's Wharf, Va., May 25, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that this post was attacked yesterday at noon by a considerable force of the enemy, supposed to be cavalry, having three guns, probably horse artillery. The attack was evidently made in earnest, with a design of rushing in upon us suddenly, but they received so decided a check from our pickets, that a large portion of the force dismounted and made their approach more cautiously. They encompassed our front, and filling the woods on the river bluff to the north, tried to stop all communication with steamers coming to our aid, and harassed our landing place. They also made it uncomfortable for the gunners to serve their pieces on our gun-boats. After fighting an hour and a half, they sent forward a flag of truce, with a note containing a summons to surrender in the name of Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee. This note was forwarded to department headquarters yesterday. I declined. We then went at it again. They massed troops on our extreme right, concealed by wooded ravines, and made a determined charge, at the same time keeping up a steady attack all along our front and left flank. This charge approached our parapet, but failed under our severe cross-

fires. They fled back into the ravines, and after another hour gradually drew off out of sight. I sent out three sallying parties who found them still drawn up in skirmishing array beyond the woods. We left the picket to watch them, and brought in a few rebel wounded and prisoners. The enemy built camp-fires, and passed a portion of the night in our front, but when at sunrise we advanced to feel of them, they had disappeared. Contrabands to-day tell us they went to Bottom's Bridge to resist the crossing of our troops at that point. During the afternoon we stopped passing steamers, claiming their aid, and calling ashore all troops aboard them, took them into our service, arming some with the guns of our wounded men and other spare guns, and working others in various ways. We were greatly indebted to volunteers—artillerymen of the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery—for taking the place of several of ours who had dropped with the heat, and of one who was shot, under the direction of the efficient and undaunted Lieut. Nicholas Hanson, of Howell's battery. The gun-boat Dawn (Captain Simmons, Executive Officer Jackaway) rendered most efficient and material aid in shelling the enemy on both flanks, changing her position according to need. They have received my heartfelt thanks. Lieutenant Swain's signal party worked faithfully under most discouraging circumstances. I ought also to mention the good conduct of Captain Quackenbush's ensign [William F. Chase]. Coming down on the tug Mayflower to learn the character of the attack, the captain and pilot being both shot down, he instantly took the wheel, and brought her through.

Within my own command all behaved steadily and well. Especially the conduct of the pickets and skirmishers under Capt. Giles H. Rich, First U. S. Colored Troops, was very fine. Our loss is 2 killed, 19 wounded, and 1 missing. Besides the civilians on the steamers, Capt. W. H. Wild, acting assistant inspector-general, and Lieut. Elam C. Beeman, First U. S. Colored Troops, were wounded. The enemy had ample opportunities for removing all their dead and wounded from every part of the field, except from the abatis, the scene of the assault. There we found about two dozen killed, including a captain and a major. We brought in 6 wounded rebels and 4 prisoners.

We have no accurate count of their force. I estimated them at least double my own, and probably triple. Prisoners stated that they had detachments from three cavalry brigades, comprising all their available men. A memorandum book in the pocket of the dead major (Cary Breckinridge, Sixth [Second] Virginia Cavalry), gives on pages 41 and 42 a clue to the parties, but not directly to the numbers. Prisoners stated that the expedition, under command of Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee in person, started from Richmond in the evening of the 23d and marched all night.

We might have slaughtered twice as many of them, but that we were at the time short of artillery ammunition (owing to the recent change of batteries at this post) of that particular caliber, and economized our stock, fearing a lengthened siege. This fault is since corrected. We were actively engaged about five and a half hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. A. WILD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Capt. SOLON A. CARTER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 4.

Report of Lieut. Julius M. Swain, Signal Officer, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS WILD'S BRIGADE,
Wilson's Landing, Va., May 25, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that this post was attacked yesterday at about 1.30 p. m. by a force of the enemy's cavalry, supposed to be over 3,000 strong, under the command of General Fitzhugh Lee. From 2 till 6 o'clock they fired incessantly upon our line. My station is on the bank of the river, within 10 yards of the left of our rifle-pits, and during three hours of the attack served as a prominent mark for the enemy. I sent Private Mott with 1 man on the gun-boat, and until 5 o'clock we were enabled to direct the fire of the guns and communicate with Sergeant Walker at Fort Powhatan. Our flag was in sight, but we were screened from view by a projection of the river bank. A detachment of the enemy, numbering about 100, afterward gained possession of the heavy-timbered point on the river, not more than 70 yards from the station, and opened fire upon us so fiercely that we were forced to abandon our post and seek protection behind the earth-works. After half an hour's delay, I opened station on board a transport near the wharf, and was enabled to direct the fire from the gun-boat so successfully that they materially checked the enemy's movements on our right. About 7 o'clock the enemy retired, leaving 30 of their dead and several wounded on the field.

The small detachment under my command worked successfully throughout the attack and received the thanks of the general commanding.

I wish to recommend to your favorable notice second-class Private Mott, who flagged several messages under fire, and then, as afterward on the gun-boat, behaved in a manner creditable alike to himself and our corps.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JULIUS M. SWAIN,
Second Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

Capt. L. B. NORTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina.

JUNE 9, 1864.—Engagement at Petersburg, Va.

REPORTS, ETC.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

No. 2.—Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, commanding Tenth Army Corps.

No. 3.—Brig. Gen. Robert S. Foster, U. S. Army, Chief of Staff, Tenth Army Corps.

No. 4.—Lieut. Col. Edward W. Smith, Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army.

No. 5.—Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, U. S. Army, commanding First Division.

No. 6.—Lieut. Col. Samuel B. Taylor, Sixty-second Ohio Infantry, First Brigade.

No. 7.—Col. Joseph R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.

No. 8.—Lieut. Col. Lorenzo Meeker, Sixth Connecticut Infantry.
No. 9.—Capt. Theodore Bacon, Seventh Connecticut Infantry.
No. 10.—Lieut. Col. Josiah I. Plimpton, Third New Hampshire Infantry.
No. 11.—Col. Joseph C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire Infantry.
No. 12.—Brig. Gen. Edward W. Hinks, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps.
No. 13.—Brig. Gen. August V. Kautz, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.
No. 14.—Lieut. Col. Everton J. Conger, First District of Columbia Cavalry, First Brigade.
No. 15.—Col. Samuel P. Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade.
No. 16.—Lieut. J. Frank Cummings, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.
No. 17.—Lieut. Col. Christopher Kleinz, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry.
No. 18.—Congratulatory orders from Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise, C. S. Army, commanding First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia.
No. 19.—Brig. Gen. Raleigh E. Colston, C. S. Army.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD, *June* 10, 1864.
(Via Fort Monroe, 1 a. m. 11th. Received 9.20 a. m.)

All quiet along our lines. Yesterday General Kautz charged enemy's works at Petersburg, and carried them, penetrating the town, but not being supported by General Gillmore, who had withdrawn his forces without a conflict, General Kautz was obliged to withdraw without further effect. General Kautz captured 40 prisoners and 1 piece of artillery, which he brought away with him. It is a misfortune that General Gillmore did not support him. Might I not have the Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Regiment from Point Lookout? Three regiments ought to hold the prisoners there.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

ADDENDA.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 10, 1864—1.20 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

Between now and 5 o'clock you will forward to me a written report of the orders under which you acted in the movement on Petersburg, stating specially the times at which you were ordered to act and move; the times in which you did move; the attack made; the nearness with which your column reached the enemy's works; how far in the advance or rear you were of General Hinks' column; how far you were separated from him; who was to make the feint, and who the real attack. Give the plan agreed upon by you; the number of men lost in killed or wounded in any attack made, and a full description of the attack, with such a report as shall give a clear and concise

narration of what you did and what was omitted to be done; the time you left your most advanced position, and also a duplicate of all orders, either verbal or written, given to General Hinks, distinguishing between the two, and giving the [time] they were sent. You will carefully note each particular of this order, and see that each is answered specifically. State also the regiments, companies, and detachments that you had with you, independent of Generals Kautz's and Hinks' commands. You need not give any report of the operations of either Kautz or Hinks.

I have ordered a specific hour for this report because I have never yet received from you any report of your operations since you have been on this line. This order is imperative. You will acknowledge receipt by telegraph.

By command of Major-General Butler:

C. J. PAINE,
Colonel, Acting Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Comdg. Tenth Army Corps, &c., Line of Intrenchments:

GENERAL: I have received your official report* sent to me in obedience as to time but not in compliance with my orders of the 10th of June in regard to the movement upon Petersburg. Your note to Colonel Shaffer, chief of staff, has been shown me acknowledging receipt of that officer's note containing the indorsement upon your report of June 10, and requesting a copy of the orders you have disobeyed. Of course you know the orders you have received, and I will with care and in detail set forth wherein I believe them to have been disobeyed. This is due to you as well as myself.

In relation to your request for a court of inquiry, it shall be granted you so far as the operations of the 8th, 9th, and 10th of June, of which alone I have any report thereof, are concerned. Such I expected and hoped would be the legitimate result of the indorsement on your report. Your demand of a court of inquiry into all your official acts and conduct while serving in this department is entirely inadmissible, and as it seems to me from the very good reason that no report having been made by you of any of your other operations, I have no official knowledge by which I can either approve or condemn that conduct, and it would seem to be manifestly improper to grant a court of inquiry upon conduct never officially reported for approval or disapproval. It is possible that when your report of your other operations shall come in there may be no difference of opinion, and therefore nothing to be the subject of inquiry.

I must call your attention to the mistake in your note of this day which states that I ask for details which could only be obtained from subordinate reports. If you will turn to the order of the 10th, you will find that you were expressly required only to state your own acts and omissions, and the orders you yourself gave to General Hinks. Instead of complying in this particular, you sent

* See p. 287.

me on the 11th the statement of conversations of Lieutenant Barnard, acting aide-de-camp, written by himself, which he claims to have had with General Hinks. I wished for the orders which you gave, not the conversations of a subaltern officer. As I proceed I will mention the points wherein your report neither complied with the order nor represents correctly the facts, times, and occurrences so far as they are known to myself or can be ascertained from others.

The history of your connection with this most unfortunate and ill-conducted expedition is this: I had intended a movement upon Petersburg to be made, founded upon very careful investigation and correct information of the state of the defenses and of the number of the troops and general condition of the enemy, as well in Petersburg as in front of our lines. I had determined to intrust that expedition to the command of Brigadier-General Hinks and General Kautz, General Hinks to take about 3,500 of his colored troops as infantry, and two sections of a battery and assault the enemy's works on two roads, the City Point road and Jordan's Point road, or rather as near those roads as possible, avoiding the strong redans and moving on the light rifle-pits which were known to connect them. My information was that the force of the enemy consisted of the Seventh North Carolina, a few pieces of field artillery, about 300 of the Seventh Confederate Cavalry, who were employed in picketing the various roads into Petersburg, extending over a circuit of some 20-odd miles, and the second-class militia of the neighborhood, consisting of exempts from physical disability from the army, boys under seventeen, and men between fifty and fifty-five, of which last number I had information there were 40, the whole militia forces amounting to between 1,000 and 1,200. These were the troops manning 9 miles of intrenchments, of which there was but a single line, about 2¼ miles from the city proper. I had concluded to detach Duncan's brigade of colored troops from the line of intrenchments on this side of the Appomattox to General Hinks, thus weakening the line in order to make by a very much larger force the attack doubly sure.

I was informed and believed, and do still believe, and have subsequent information to confirm it, that the enemy's infantry parapets were such as might be ridden over by a mounted cavalryman. The plan of attack was that General Kautz should take 1,200 or 1,400 cavalry, and, making a detour which would take a considerable time, go out under cover of a column of infantry, striking out to the left and coming in upon the south side, would move upon the Jerusalem plank road, which is on the left of the town; that movements on the enemy's works in two columns should be made on the right of their intrenchments by the Jordan's Point road and City Point road, avoiding the redans which cover those roads, and assaulting the infantry lines which connect them and which run through open fields, or not very thick woods, one to be a real and the other a feigned attack, to be converted into a real one, if the first, or Kautz's, movement was successful. While this plan of attack was being matured at Spring Hill with General Hinks, by a fortuitous circumstance you joined the party. The intended movement, the causes which led to it, the information upon which it was based, and the plan of attack was there unfolded to you between General Hinks, yourself, General Weitzel, and myself. After the attack had been determined upon and we had separated, I was informed by General

Weitzel that you very much desired to take command of the expedition, alleging as a reason the great importance of the expedition to the Union cause, the necessity of having tried troops to cover the retreat in case of disaster, or who would be more to be depended upon in making an assault upon the enemy's lines, and you offered to take one of the white brigades from your line instead of Duncan's colored brigade, which was to be left on the line in its place, and with it to make the real infantry attack.

Against my better judgment, feeling unwilling to decline an offer to have the expedition led by an officer of your rank and presumed experience, and feeling still more unwilling to trust so important an enterprise to untried troops, as yet very little under fire, and colored troops whom you seemed to think were not to be so much depended upon as your own, I accepted the offer, and placed the whole detail of preparing the expedition, so far as your part was concerned, in your hands. This was about 12 m. on the 8th. I took upon myself to see to it that General Hinks should have his brigade of colored troops ready at the time appointed, and this was promptly done by him. You were directed to march the brigade from your lines at 12 o'clock at night across the pontoon bridge, which has been laid now three weeks on the left of the line of intrenchments, of which you have been many days in command, and which forms a part of the defensive works of that line, because it is the means of marching troops to reenforce the extreme left work on the southern side of the Appomattox, if attacked, or to withdraw troops from that work on to your line, if there attacked. After crossing that pontoon bridge you were to put your brigade in some convenient spot until near daylight, and then, in conjunction with General Hinks, you were to march 3 miles, which would bring you upon the enemy's pickets by a good, tried, and high road, which had been many times reconnoitered by General Hinks' cavalry, and which could not be mistaken. You were then to march rapidly at daybreak, drive in the enemy's pickets, follow them closely, and pursue them into their works. As soon as your column of infantry uncovered a road which led to the left in the direction of the Jerusalem plank road, General Kautz, whose column was to be in the rear of yours, was to go to the left, make the detour of the defenses of the town at such distance from them as to be unobserved, if possible, and make his attack on the left at the Jerusalem plank road. All these positions and roads were explained to you by the aid of the very correct map copied from the one found on the person of the rebel General Walker, who was for a time in command of the defenses of Petersburg.

It was understoood between General Kautz and yourself and myself, that the distance he would have to travel would be between 15 and 20 miles. Further, there was explained to you the great benefits which would result from the expedition, in the entire shutting off of supplies for an indefinite time from Lee's army, by the cutting of the bridges across the Appomattox, especially the one known as the Government bridge, which has been built by the rebel authorities, and solely used for their own purposes since the war; and as that railroad bridge formed the only link of railroad of the proper gauge on which the transportation of Lee's army could be sent south, and as immediately upon an attack upon Petersburg from the south side, all the rolling-stock at Petersburg would be sent to Richmond, and there be effectually cut off, it seemed to me that to obtain the object would justify the risk of a pretty large expenditure of life, if

necessary, and therefore I gave you as my deliberate opinion that the advantage would be cheaply purchased at 500, and not too dearly with the sacrifice of 1,000 men in killed and wounded. All these details, the importance of moving in time to make an early attack in the morning, in order that you might be able to return to your intrenchments at daybreak on the following morning, where, if the enemy were in any force we might expect an attack upon our lines in return for the attack upon Petersburg, if at all, were fully explained to you, and upon your suggestion that the march of your troops (which, however, by no accident could exceed 20 miles) would be too fatiguing, I stated to you that if successful in your attack on Petersburg, you might content yourself by sending back 1,000 of the negro troops, with which I would endeavor to hold the intrenchments; and that, knowing their marching capabilities, I had no doubt of their being able to come in.

It was further explained to you that, if you got into Petersburg and destroyed the bridges so as to put the Appomattox without means of being crossed between General Kautz and the enemy's forces in front of our line of intrenchments, he was then to proceed down the railroad with his cavalry, destroying it as far as he could, until he was opposed by a sufficient force of the enemy guarding the railroad to cause him to turn back.

At 5.10 in the afternoon of the 8th instant, in answer to your suggestion as to taking two batteries of artillery, I replied to you, I thought "two sections of a battery would be sufficient, because this is not to be artillery work, but a quick, decisive push." You informed me that you intended to take four regiments and that you hardly knew how you could take any single brigade, because many of the men of each brigade were on picket, and to withdraw the pickets and change them before the usual time would give the enemy notice that a movement was contemplated. I therefore authorized you to form a composite brigade of four regiments, from the regiments not on picket, to obviate that difficulty, and stated that I supposed those four regiments would be at least equal in numbers to the two negro regiments with which I had intended to make one of the attacks. In violation of that understanding, knowing how much you weakened our line here, and without my knowledge, you took five regiments, to wit: Seventh Connecticut, Third New Hampshire, Seventh New Hampshire, Sixth Connecticut, and Sixty-second Ohio, and although directed, by my order of the 10th, to "state all the regiments, companies, and detachments which you took with you," you have, either carelessly or purposely, concealed the fact that you took the fifth regiment, and have made no mention of the cavalry or artillery which you took with you. How such an omission could carelessly have happened under my order to you to "carefully note each particular of this order and see that each is answered specifically," and to "state also the regiments, companies, and detachments you had with you independent of Generals Kautz's and Hinks' commands," will require explanation.

Further, in contravention of your own deliberative opinion given to me, you took the fifth regiment from the line of pickets, not giving it time hardly to get ready before it was required to be in order to march. Instead, then, of marching at a proper hour to reach the other side at 12 o'clock, where you yourself desired me to send a staff officer to order General Hinks to report to you at 12 o'clock,

you did not personally reach that point until 2.30 in the morning, keeping General Hinks waiting for you in the saddle from 12 to 2.30, and the excuse in your report that some of your regiments got lost is hardly an answer for your own remissness in not keeping an appointment with a general officer of nearly an equal rank with yourself and of quite as meritorious services. You also say that some of your "regiments got lost in getting to the pontoon bridge." Now, as the pontoon bridge is on the left of your line of intrenchments, it would seem that your regiments got lost within their own lines. But, is it not true that you sent no officer of your staff to direct the march of that column as is customary and usual among generals of volunteers? Nay, more. Is it not also true that your chief of staff woke me up at 2 o'clock in the morning to inquire the road, at my headquarters, to the pontoon bridge, which road should have been as familiar to him and to you as the path to your bed? The consequence was that your troops, instead of marching by a good dry road from the intrenchments across to the pontoon bridge, were dragged through the swamps a mile in the rear of your lines, in the mud reaching nearly to their knees, and fatigued with being kept up all night wandering about like sheep without a shepherd, and instead of having the hours from 12 to 3 to rest in, they had, as stated in your dispatch to me, at 3.40 a. m., just crossed the river, thus spending from 10.30 p. m. on the 8th, the time at which they actually moved, to 3.40 a. m. on the 9th (five hours and ten minutes) in moving over a space which does not exceed by measurement 4 miles, besides remaining, from 9 p. m., when they were by your order to be ready, an hour and a half under arms before they did move at all.

The question might be here asked: If it took five hours and ten minutes to get out of your lines, how long would it take you to get into the enemy's?

In your report you further say that on the evening of the 8th you were instructed to take command of the expedition. Now, you know that, at your own special request, at 12 m. it was arranged that you should take command of the expedition, and you will further remember that I sent you, at your request, at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 8th, a guide, who should be able to explain to you the nature of the enemy's works. You further say in your report that Generals Kautz and Hinks had received all their instructions preparatorily from myself. That is true; but those instructions to Generals Hinks and Kautz were given in your presence and upon consultation with you. You further say in your report that some of the regiments lost the road to the pontoon bridge, so that General Kautz and Colonel Hawley (in command of your brigade) did not get their commands across until 3.40 a. m. That report throws unmerited censure upon General Kautz, because his command was ordered to "follow the infantry across the bridge," and, of course, if he obeyed his orders, until you got across he could not go over.

You stated to me in your dispatch of 3.40 a. m. that you had "no doubt the enemy are fully apprised of our movement by the noise of the bridge. It is not muffled, and the crossing of the cavalry can be heard for miles." The bridge was muffled by the engineer corps, some 10 bales of hay having been put upon it to prevent the sound of the cavalry being heard upon it, and if it was gone, it was because your troops used it up in attempting to dry the mud and water (which they should not have had upon them, if properly directed)

from their feet as they passed it. The fact that it was not heard many miles is now ascertained, because you surprised and captured in the morning the enemy's pickets, hours after the cavalry crossed, within 3 miles in a straight line of this very bridge, and they say, upon examination, that they did not hear then of the movement. You did not move until 5.30 a. m., an hour after sunrise. You did not reach the enemy's outer pickets until after 8 o'clock, and you made no such demonstration as caused any alarm in Petersburg until 9 o'clock, as is evidenced by the fact that General Kautz's command captured a schoolmaster, whom I have examined, who was in his school in Petersburg after 9 o'clock, when the first alarm was given.

You further say in your report that—

It was understood as essential that the attack should be a quick, decisive push to prevent re-enforcements to the enemy from their forces on our front north of the Appomattox, only about two hours' march distant.

They had 7 miles to march to Petersburg, and 3 to the intrenchments, while you had but 4 to march. If they used the same rate of progress that you did, it would be a matter of easy calculation at what time the enemy's re-enforcements would arrive. But you forget to state that it was agreed upon on my part that my artillery should open all along my line in an active demonstration upon their forces, to keep them before us while you made your movement, and that that opening by me was to be upon the first gun being heard from you, and I waited at the signal station with my glass on where your column should have been until nearly 9 o'clock, and then opened immediately, as was agreed upon, on hearing your first gun, and with such effect that no forces left the front and passed to Petersburg until after you returned within your own intrenchments. This was made certain by the observations of the signal officers, who commanded both the turnpike and the railroad, being the only communication between the enemy in our front and Petersburg. You have endeavored to state in your report what my orders to Generals Kautz and Hinks were. That was no part of your report required by my order. I knew what my orders to them were without any information from that source.

You further say in your report, "Hawley drove in the enemy's pickets on the City Point road shortly after 6 a. m., and about 7 was before the enemy's works." There must certainly be a very grave mistake here. You say in your dispatch to me that you moved at 5.30 a. m. You were then 4 miles from the enemy's works, and unless they advanced their pickets much farther than usual, and your rate of progress was much faster than when in your own lines, you could not have reached his pickets at 6 o'clock, nor could you have been before his works at 7, nor were you there at that time, because when before his works, when within cannon range, he opened fire upon you, and that first gun was much nearer 9 than 7. And Colonel Hawley will tell you if you will ask him, as he has told me, that he never did drive in the enemy's pickets at any time during the day, much less at 6 o'clock in the morning.

You say further, in your report, that General Kautz was expected to reach the enemy's works at 9 o'clock. As it was understood that his march was at least 15 miles to your 4, and as he expressly said that he should only march upon a walk, how could you suppose that he could accomplish the 15 miles in nearly the same time that it

took you to accomplish the 4? You nowhere in your report say, nor is it true, that you or your brigade commander of the force under your immediate command, with which you were to make the real attack, saw any 20 rebel soldiers in any one body during this day. You saw no line of battle, nor did your soldiers approach near enough the enemy's works to ascertain whether or not there was an abatis in front of them, and the strength of them was only demonstrated upon another part of the line, where they were ridden over by General Kautz with his cavalry.

You further report to me that General Hinks "drove the enemy into their intrenchments," and that you ordered him to hold his position and keep the enemy within his intrenchments, and that he replied that he thought he could do it. His exact reply was that he "could do so until doomsday," if that was all you desired. You further say, in your report, that "on Colonel Hawley's front the enemy were never entirely within their works, but fought outside." As you never saw anything but a skirmish line fighting, why do you say that "Colonel Hawley drove in the pickets," if they always fought outside? You further say, "As soon as the nature of the works in our front was ascertained, I was convinced that an assault upon them would, in all probability, fail." It is respectfully submitted that that was none of your business. You were ordered to make that assault, and upon the commanding general was the responsibility. You further say in your report that "I ordered the two positions to be maintained, expecting every moment to hear from General Kautz, who was expected to reach the enemy's works at 9 o'clock." Is there anything in your report or in the facts which is descriptive of a "quick, decisive push," or anything which seems like that, or any reported attempt to obey my order? You further say that "at about 1 o'clock, in order to get General Hinks and Colonel Hawley together, I directed them to withdraw to the junction of the road in front of Baylor's, where I waited until after 3 o'clock to hear from General Kautz," or, in other words, General Hinks and Colonel Hawley "being a mile apart in front of the enemy's works," as you say in a former part of your report, you withdrew them 2 miles from those works in order to get them together. It might be supposed that a junction of a mile might have been made without a withdrawal of 2 miles from in front of the intrenchments, which you admit that, if you could not take, you were to remain and hold the enemy in them until you heard from General Kautz. It is suggested that advancing toward him 2 miles would have been a much more certain way to have heard from him.

Again you say, "Receiving no information from that quarter, I concluded that he had taken his command on a raid, as directed or authorized by you." This last sentence is an entire misstatement of the fact, so gross that one would suppose it must have been known to you. General Kautz was not authorized or directed by me to go on any raid until after Petersburg was taken, the bridges and public buildings and public property destroyed, which would put the lines of the Appomattox between him and the enemy. Nothing could be better understood; nothing more distinct. If you supposed he had taken Petersburg and then had gone on the raid authorized, why did you not go in? If you supposed he had not taken Petersburg, why did you not go to his support? It seems to me that an infantry support of 3,500 men deserting 1,400 cavalry and leaving them to their fate in immediate contact with the forces

of the enemy, too large for that infantry to attack, according to the theory upon which you were acting, was the most unsoldierly act ever done by a commanding officer.

You further say, in your report, that you "then withdrew to the saw-mill, where I remained about an hour, and then marched back to our intrenchments;" or, in other words, you withdrew another half mile from the enemy, and waited another hour. Now it turns out that at 1.30, thirty minutes after you withdrew your forces from the enemy, General Kautz made his attack at the point designated, carried the works, penetrated the town of Petersburg, and did very gallantly all that he was required to do, but was obliged to withdraw, receiving no support from you, who was at that time industriously getting General Hinks and Colonel Hawley together by withdrawing from before the enemy's militia.

You say further in your report that "it was no part of the plan to assault the enemy's works on the right as they were known to have interior lines of redoubts." At a single point only is there an interior line, and that is at Jordan's, on the City Point road, and it was fully explained to you that that interior line was a failure, being commanded by the outer line, which was higher, and you yourself agreed with me that you would make the real attack on the right while General Hinks made the feigned attack; and in my order of this morning for you to report, you were ordered to say which was to make the feigned and which the real attack, which you have wholly omitted to do. You were also ordered to "give all verbal orders which you sent to General Hinks," which you have failed to do. You were also ordered to "state the regiments companies, and detachments which you took with you," which you have failed to do. You were also ordered to "state specially the times at which you were ordered to act and move," which you have failed to do. You were also directed to "state the nearness which your column reached the enemy's works," which you have failed to do. You were also directed to "state how far in advance or rear you were of General Hinks' column," which you have failed to do. You were also ordered to "give the plan agreed upon between you, if any," which you have failed to do; and to "give the number of men lost in killed and wounded in an attack made, with a description of the attack," which you have failed to do; and you were told that "you need not give any report of the operations of Generals Kautz or Hinks," which you have attempted to do.

For these reasons your report is wholly defective, unsatisfactory, and unapproved of, and your entire action such as requires me to report it to the general commanding the Army of the United States and to the War Department for such action as they may think proper.

Certain it is, made so from the examination of prisoners captured since, as well as before, that 4,500 of my best troops under your command were kept at bay without an attempt at attack, so far as you were concerned, by some 1,500 men, 600 only of which were Confederate troops, and the rest old men and boys, the grave and the cradle being robbed of about equal proportions to compose the force opposed to you. Without, at this moment, giving words of characterization of the disobedience of orders and your conduct on the field, I submit this statement of facts in review of your report, as you have requested me to do, most of them known to myself, my chief engineer, my signal officers, and an officer of General Grant's staff, who was here present, hearing the instructions and knowing what was done from your

verbal report made in his presence upon your return, to your careful consideration; and in connection I will call your attention to the fact that after your return to my headquarters at 6 o'clock in the evening, and upon being informed of what had happened to General Kautz, you were very anxious to go out to find him with an escort of 50 cavalry, and that you sent your body guard to my headquarters at 8.30 in the evening for that purpose, when I informed you that General Kautz had returned, having been inside the intrenchments of Petersburg. It would seem that if when you were within 5 miles of him with 3,500 men you were not able to open communication with him, it was hardly worth while to try with a body guard of 50, because such an operation would have added weakness to him and not strength.

To have been obliged to review your report, point out some of its errors and inconsistencies, and to bring out the disobedience of orders, as well in point of time as in want of action, to be obliged to dwell upon the details of this humiliating failure, to probe anew the acute wounds of hopes blasted when so much was expected, to be obliged to comment even with deserved severity upon the actions of an officer whose personal relations have been as pleasant as mine with you, has been a most painful task, to which nothing but a conviction of the stern necessity of a duty to the country to be done could have compelled me.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 14, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of United States:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose the report* of General Gillmore of his operations on Petersburg, with my indorsement thereon; also a copy of a note† to my chief of staff received in reply, also the reply furnished him [Gillmore] by me at his request, and a copy of my special order of this date, being the action taken upon the whole subject. I need not say to you how unpleasant and painful this whole matter has been, and the necessity of taking the action I have, which seemed to me imperative. The whole matter will be investigated by a competent court of inquiry.

Not taking into account the loss of valuable lives in other engagements in the war, a more disastrous defeat has not been sustained by the American arms than this has been to the success of the operations on the south side of the James. Had the movement been a success, as it easily might have been, Petersburg would have been in our possession, as all subsequent and prior information shows it might and ought to have been, the whole railroad destroyed effectually, the line of the Appomattox secured, and the enemy's defensive works in our front rendered useless.

I also inclose a copy of the Richmond Sentinel with the account of the Petersburg Express of the affair. It will be seen by that account that the enemy never discovered that Generals Gillmore and Hinks with the real attacking column came against them at all. They describe the movements of the real column of attack simply "as feints to deceive our forces" while the real movement for the

* See p. 287. † See of June 12, p. 290.

surprise and capture of the city was on the Jerusalem plank road coming to Petersburg from a southerly direction. On the two first roads (*i. e.*, the City Point road and the Prince George Court-House road, upon which was General Gillmore's column) the enemy appeared in considerable numbers as early as 7 o'clock, and this skirmishing was kept up for some time.

I also inclose a copy of the map* furnished General Gillmore, with a sketch of the line of fortifications, and an indication of his and General Hinks' position and General Kautz's attack.

I inclose official copies of General Hinks' and General Kautz's reports of the same movement without indorsement, as they have been sufficiently commented upon in my reply to General Gillmore, furnished at his request.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Near Point of Rocks, Va., June 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have the honor respectfully to inform you that an official copy of your report has been forwarded to Washington, with the indorsement thereon suggested in the note from the chief of staff. Also that the paper headed "Statement of conversation between Lieutenant Barnard, aide-de-camp, and General Hinks"† was not received until the day after your report was received and acted upon, and as it is a paper not called for by my order directing your report, and is not such a paper as should, in my judgment, be the foundation of official action, it has not been forwarded to Washington. Your attention is called again to the fact that it does not state the orders which you gave, but is what it purports to be a statement of conversation passed between General Hinks and that officer. I have also the honor to inform you that a steamer will be ready at once to take you to Fortress Monroe.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. CAROLINA,
In the Field, near Point of Rocks, Va., June 14, 1864.

I. Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore, having requested a court of inquiry upon his official action in the expedition to Petersburg because of the indorsement of disapproval upon his report of his conduct made by the commanding general thereon, his request is granted, and the court will be convened as soon as the interest of the public service will permit.

II. Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore is relieved of his command, and will proceed to Fortress Monroe forthwith, to await the action of the court of inquiry requested by him.

III. The staff of Major-General Gillmore, except his aides-de-camp, will report to Brigadier-General Terry, the senior officer, com-

* To appear in Atlas. † See p. 295.

manding the line of defenses. All acting staff officers upon General Gillmore's staff will report to their several commands for duty.

IV. Brigadier-General Foster will report to Brigadier-General Terry, to be assigned to duty.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS.
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Near Point of Rocks, Va., June 14, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE,
U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 14th of June, dated headquarters Tenth Army Corps, in the field near Hatcher's, June 14, 1864.* I take leave to call your attention to the heading. After having been relieved from the command of the Tenth Army Corps, or of any troops in the field, such heading must have been an inadvertence. General Gillmore is laboring under a much more grave misapprehension than he imports to the commanding general if he supposes that it became the painful duty of the commanding general to relieve him from his command because of his request for the court of inquiry. The special order so relieving him was made because of the opinions expressed and the allegations made in the review by the major-general commanding of General Gillmore's action near Petersburg. If those are in any degree correct, and General Gillmore will understand that by the major-general commanding they must be assumed to be so, then General Gillmore's services in the field would not be valuable to the service or the country; but, on the contrary, great mischief might arise, because of his rank, from the necessity of putting him in command of troops which, if the facts in that report are substantially correct, could not be safely intrusted to General Gillmore's charge with hopes of success. In kind consideration, therefore, to General Gillmore, the major-general commanding coupled the order relieving him from command, which from the 9th day of June has been, in the judgment of the major-general commanding, a necessity, with another paragraph in the order which gratified his request for a court of inquiry; and leave is taken to assure General Gillmore that he would have been relieved from command without any such request, and the time was only delayed until the hourly expected arrival of an officer of experience and ability to take his place. It is a source of regret that General Gillmore should have misconstrued what was intended as a kindness. General Gillmore will, therefore, at once proceed to Fortress Monroe, and there await further orders. The major-general commanding has the honor to state his understanding of General Gillmore's request for a court of inquiry, and the regulations and the purport of the article of war as governing the action which ought to be taken upon such request. First, then, the Ninety-second Article of War provides, among other things, that:

As courts of inquiry may be perverted to dishonorable purposes, and may be considered as engines of destruction to military merit in the hands of weak and envious commanders, they are hereby prohibited, unless directed by the President of the United States, or demanded by the accused.

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*See p. 291.

Now, then, to prevent subordinates from being oppressed by their superiors, the superior is not allowed to order a court against a subordinate's wish, but must ask the President leave so to do; but it by no means follows that therefore the subordinate has a right to have a court directed by the President at his request, or that the President, if he directs the court, will not direct it to be ordered by the superior. Therefore, understanding from your note that you desired a court of inquiry, that request was promptly granted you. The phrase in your note of the 13th is:

> It only remains for me to deny respectfully, but emphatically, the charges therein set against me, to request a copy of the orders I have destroyed or failed to obey, and then to demand of the President a court of inquiry to investigate all my official acts while serving in this department. I court a full investigation into the part I have taken in the campaign here.

It is submitted that no man reading that sentence, especially with the context, would fail to find a request for a court as soon as you are furnished a copy of the orders. To that the commanding general replied, "You knew what your orders were," and I pointed out to you wherein it was thought they were not obeyed. This was done with sufficient minuteness at least to give you notice of the particulars in which your conduct was deemed censurable. Then, again, a request to have all your conduct inquired into includes, of course, a request to have a part thereof inquired into; and it may be very proper to grant a part of that request, while one is obliged to refuse another part of it. It, therefore, cannot be said that a request to have all inquired into is not a request to have any given part inquired into.

Whether you behaved well or ill on the 16th of May near Chesterfield, for instance, can in no way illustrate or determine the fact whether you behaved well or ill near Petersburg on the 9th of June following, in another distinct and diverse operation. The commanding general already explained to you that not having received any official report of your action, he could [not], nor ought the President, nor, in his belief, would the President, order any court of inquiry upon all the official conduct of General Gillmore not yet officially reported, except to inquire, possibly, why General Gillmore had not made his official report earlier.

If you request a court of inquiry it will be granted. If you do not request a court of inquiry you will say so, and the commanding general will give it his most attentive consideration whether or not you should be holden to your former request; and, therefore, a categorical answer is desired to this question: Do you, or do you not, wish a court of inquiry upon your report of the operations of the 8th, 9th, and 10th of June, and the commanding general's indorsement?

If you do not, such action will be taken as the commanding general may be advised the good of the public service demands. If you do, as is already stated, it will be granted you; but you are earnestly desired to disabuse yourself of the idea that the question whether you shall or shall not have a court of inquiry into your conduct has anything to do with your being relieved from command.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., *June* 22, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the War Department for file.

The reasons assigned in General Butler's order for relieving me from my command, viz, to await a court of inquiry at Fortress Monroe, for which it was alleged I had applied, is distinctly disavowed in the within letter, and another and entirely different reason given, to wit, that in General Butler's opinion the command of troops cannot be safely intrusted to me with hopes of success. I respectfully submit that this can only be regarded as the opinion of one officer; and although that officer was at the time of expressing it my commanding general, it is well known that he was unfriendly to me, and had at various times treated me with marked discourtesy. Attention is called to what purports to be an extract from my note of the 12th instant, as follows:

> It only remains for me to deny respectfully, but emphatically, the charges therein set against me, to request a copy of the orders I have destroyed or failed to obey, and then to apply, &c.*

This is not a correct extract from my note, which was written in a manifold writer. The original is now before me. Where the word "destroyed" occurs in the above alleged extract, the word "disobeyed" was used in the original. This is an important alteration of my language, and is calculated to convey the erroneous idea that I had destroyed some of the orders given me; while in fact I neither disobeyed, neglected to obey, nor destroyed any orders; and my repeated demand for copies of such orders, or any evidence that they had ever been given, has remained unanswered.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, June 17, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

If you have no objection to withdrawing your order relieving General Gillmore, I will relieve him at his own request. The way the matter now stands, it is a severe punishment to General Gillmore, even if a court of inquiry should hereafter acquit him. I think the course here suggested advisable, and would be pleased if you agree to it, though I do not order or insist upon it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 17, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: I send you the withdrawal of so much of my special order as relieves Major-General Gillmore, according to your request, to take date as of the day of its issue, upon the supposition that it is to be operative and simultaneous with yours, relieving him at his request.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

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* For full copy of note, see p. 290.

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. CAROLINA,
In the Field, Va., June 17, 1864.

So much of special orders from these headquarters as relieved Major-General Gillmore of the command of the troops of the Tenth Army Corps, serving in this department, is withdrawn as of the date of its issue, to wit, June 14, 1864.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 36. } *City Point, Va., June 17, 1864.*

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2. Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore, U. S. Volunteers, is, at his own request, hereby relieved from command of the Tenth Army Corps, serving in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, to take effect and date from June 14 instant, and will proceed to Washington, D. C., and report to the Adjutant-General of the Army for orders. His personal staff has permission to accompany him.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, commanding Tenth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., June 10, 1864.

GENERAL: I have to report as follows in regard to the movement on Petersburg yesterday:

On the day before, about noon, I was directed by you to get ready 1,800 infantry of my command to take part in this movement. You also informed me that General Kautz, with about 1,200 cavalry, and General Hinks, with 1,200 or 1,300 infantry, would co-operate in the movement. On the evening of the 8th I received your verbal instructions to take command of the movement and get the troops that were to be drawn from the intrenchments across the Appomattox by midnight. Generals Kautz and Hinks had received all their preparatory instructions from yourself. Colonel Hawley commanded the infantry drawn from the intrenchments. His command comprised the Seventh Connecticut, [Third New Hampshire], Seventh New Hampshire, Sixth Connecticut, and the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers. Owing to the darkness of the night some of the regiments lost the road to the pontoon bridge, so that General Kautz and Col-

onel Hawley did not get their commands across the Appomattox until 3.40 a. m. yesterday, at which time I sent you the following dispatch:

HEADQUARTERS,
Broadway, June 9, 1864—3.40 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

My command has just crossed the river; some of it has been delayed by losing the road. I have no doubt that the enemy are fully apprised of our movement by the noise of the bridge. It is not muffled at all, and the crossing of the cavalry can be heard for miles.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

Your instructions to me were to attack the Petersburg defenses at three points. These defenses are known to be in front of the place, 2½ or 3 miles distant from it, with the ends resting on the Appomattox above and below the city. Kautz's cavalry were to pass around to the left and attack on the Jerusalem road. The infantry were to strike the line nearer to us. These instructions were verbal. The only written orders I got from you were contained in your dispatch of the 8th, 5.10 p. m., that, "This is not to be artillery work, but a quick, decisive push." This was understood to be essential to prevent re-enforcements to the enemy from their forces in our front north of the Appomattox, only about two hours' march distant. From the pontoon bridge the command took the road via Copsa's. Kautz's cavalry passed them at 5 a. m., followed by Hinks and Hawley. The following orders were given to General Hinks at this time:

COPSA'S, *June 9*—5 a. m.

Brigadier-General HINKS:

In the attack about to take place in the defenses of Petersburg you are to take the Jordan's Point road, following General Kautz until you strike that road. Unless the attack is made promptly and vigorously there will be danger of failure, as the enemy will re-enforce Petersburg from their lines in front of General Terry. Should you penetrate the town before General Kautz, who is to attack on the Jerusalem road, the public buildings, public stores, bridges across the Appomattox, depots, and cars, are all to be destroyed. Communicate with me on the City Point road.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

This was the only written order to General Hinks. General Kautz had received his orders from yourself in general terms. They were that while the infantry engaged the works on the right he should force the intrenchments on the left, enter the town, accomplish the desired destruction of property, and return. I was ordered to bring back the infantry taken from the intrenchments the same evening. Hawley drove in the enemy's pickets on the City Point road shortly after 6 a. m., and about 7 was before the enemy's works. On the Jordan's Point road Hinks drove the enemy into their works and pushed up to within 50 yards of them. My aide, Lieutenant Barnard, went frequently to General Hinks. About 10 a. m. I received a message from the general that he had been obliged to withdraw somewhat to get a better position; that two regiments had been added to the enemy's force in his front; that two of the enemy's redoubts in his front were each armed with a field battery, and that it would be impossible to carry that place by assault. I ordered General Hinks to hold his position and keep the enemy within his intrenchments. He replied that he thought he could do it. On Colonel Hawley's front the enemy were never entirely within their works, but fought

outside. As soon as the nature of the works in our front was ascertained I was convinced that an assault upon them would in all probability fail, and I ordered the two positions to be maintained, expecting every moment to hear of General Kautz, who was expected to reach the enemy's works at 9 o'clock. General Hinks and Colonel Hawley were about a mile apart. Communication was kept up between them by a road in the rear. About 1 o'clock, in order to get them together, I directed them to withdraw to junction of road in front of Baylor's, where I waited until after 3 o'clock to hear from General Kautz. Receiving no information from that quarter I concluded that he had taken his command on a raid, as directed or authorized by you. I then withdrew to saw-mill, where I remained about an hour, and then marched back to our intrenchments. I received no communication from General Kautz during the day. It was no part of the plan to assault the enemy's works on the right, where it was known they have an interior line of redoubts, unless there was a strong probability of success, or until General Kautz's attack should divert them. It was and is my opinion, coincided in by my principal officers, that the works could not have been carried by the force we had.

I have no official returns of killed and wounded. My loss was very slight—25 killed and wounded will probably cover it all outside of Kautz's command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina.

[Indorsement.]

Report of the expedition of which General Gillmore volunteered to take command entirely unsatisfactory; it fails to comply in many particulars with the order requiring it; states times, orders, and occurrences with much inaccuracy. The conduct of the expedition, as disclosed by it, and in fact, was dilatory and ill-judged. The demonstration, too feeble to be called an attack, was in direct disobedience to orders. The whole affair, in view of the forces known to be opposed, was most disgraceful to the Union arms.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 10, 1864. (Received 8 p. m.)

In my report sent in this afternoon please insert the Third New Hampshire as part of Hawley's brigade.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

General BUTLER,
Commanding.

ADDENDA.

JUNE 9, 1864—8.25 [p. m.]

General GILLMORE:

I have ordered your escort back. General Kautz is at my quarters, having come from the inner line of intrenchments of Petersburg, having carried the outer and only line of intrenchments.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 9, 1864—9 p. m. (Received 9.10 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

It seems very strange that General Kautz did not communicate with me at all, knowing as he did that my command was in two parts, beyond supporting distance of each other, and that circumstances might render it necessary to draw them back and get them together, as was the case. It was not until after 3.15 that my command was more than twenty minutes' march from the intrenchments, waiting there to hear from General Kautz.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your report of the demonstration upon Petersburg will be forwarded to headquarters of the Army, and a copy to the War Department, with the following indorsement:

Report of the expedition of which General Gillmore volunteered to take command is entirely unsatisfactory: it fails to comply with the order requiring it in many particulars: it states times, orders, and occurrences with much inaccuracy. The conduct of the expedition, as disclosed by it, and in fact, was dilatory and ill-judged: the demonstration upon the enemy too feeble to be called an attack—was in direct disobedience to orders. The whole affair, in view of the forces known to be opposed, was disgraceful to the Union arms.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

This should have been sent you this morning, as it was forwarded to me this morning for transmittal, but overlooked.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

—

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864—1 a. m.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, &c.:

Your note of last evening is received. As I consider the indorsement, which you say the major-general commanding intends to send to Washington with my report of the demonstration against Petersburg on the 9th, to be not only unmerited and unjust, but not sustained by facts, it only remains for me to deny respectfully, but

emphatically, all the charges therein set against me, to request a copy of the orders which I have disobeyed or have failed to obey, and then to demand of the President a court of inquiry to investigate all my official acts and conduct while serving in this department. I court a full investigation into the part I have taken in the campaign here.

I received at 2.10 p. m. yesterday, while waiting for the reports of my subordinate commanders, an imperative order "to submit by 5 o'clock p. m. a full report of my operations, with a multiplicity of details which could only be obtained from the subordinate reports. Those reports, I am informed, have been made to the major-general commanding by his order. My report was completed at 5.20 p. m. in as much detail as the order seemed to demand, and I fail to see in it, as subsequently corrected, any important item requiring change. Two additions to it have since been made to correct unimportant omissions, one giving the name of a regiment inadvertently left out, and the other giving the written statement* of Lieutenant Barnard, of my staff, of all the communications which he carried between General Hinks and myself. I also omitted to state that four pieces of artillery accompanied Colonel Hawley's command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., June 14, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a special order,† by which I am relieved from my command, and directed to proceed to Fort Monroe, for the alleged reason that I had requested a court of inquiry upon my official action in the Petersburg expedition.

I beg leave, respectfully, to represent that the major-general commanding has gravely misapprehended my note of the 12th of June. In that note I intimated that after receiving copies of the orders which it was alleged that I had disobeyed, my only recourse to protect myself from censure, which I believed to be undeserved, would be to demand from the President a court of inquiry, not on my action in the Petersburg expedition alone, but on my official acts and conduct while serving in this department. I had once before been subjected to censure, and I therefore designedly used the expression "while serving in this department." I did not at that time, nor have I yet asked for a court of inquiry from the major-general commanding, nor even from the President, and I respectfully refer to that portion of the Ninety-second Article of War, which prohibits such courts unless directed by the President, or demanded by the accused.

If the passage in my note referred to could be construed to be such a request, which it was not, and was not intended to be, it must be taken with its qualifications "by the President."

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*See p. 295. †See p. 283.

I have refrained, and I still refrain from asking for such a court; not because I do not desire the fullest examination of all my actions (I earnestly desire a most thorough and complete investigation when a suitable time shall arrive), but because such a proceeding would withdraw me from active service in the field during its continuance, and would require the presence as witnesses of officers who can ill be spared from their present duties. Even had I made a request for a court, it would not be necessary, nor would it be in accordance with the usages and customs of the service to relieve me from command before the commencement of its session. I therefore respectfully ask that the special order referred to may be countermanded.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

BERMUDA HUNDRED, *June* 16, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: In reply to your letter dated June 11,* stating certain grounds of dissatisfaction with my report of my operations on the 9th instant, I have the honor to respectfully submit the following statement:

Although I never received from you any detailed statement of your plan of the expedition, such as is given in your letter (pages 2 to 14 inclusive), it matters little, for the attacks were made at the three points mentioned by you, the infantry attacks on the right being in point of time about five hours earlier than the cavalry attacks on the left. I know nothing about your instructions to General Kautz as to an expedition down the railroad, except that I understood from him and yourself that he was instructed or authorized to make a raid whether he got into Petersburg or not. It was generally understood that the infantry should attack the enemy's left at two points where it was known the fortifications were formidable, while the cavalry two or three hours later should force the line on the enemy's right where it was supposed to be weak, enter the city, burn the bridges, and retire. On page 16 you say that I took more regiments than I was authorized to take. Nothing was said between you and myself as to the number of regiments to go, but the number of men was fixed at 1,800. General Terry was directed to furnish 1,400 (see his letter†) and General Turner the remainder. The detail, except that the Seventh Connecticut was to form part of it, was left to General Terry. I ordered no regiment from picket; neither did I neglect to furnish the necessary guides (see General Terry's letter and Colonel Hawley's report‡). The troops marched to the pontoon bridge by the road in rear, because had they marched by the parapet the movement would have been observed by the enemy (see General Terry's letter). The troops started from the pontoon bridge toward Petersburg forty minutes later than appears to have been intended by you from your remarks on page 21—that is, they started at 3.40 instead of 3 o'clock. The infantry did not delay the cavalry in crossing the bridge, nearly all the cavalry crossed in advance of Hawley's brigade. You state (page 25) that I did not move until 5.30, while in fact I moved

*See p. 374. †Page 297. ‡See p. 298

from the bridge at 3.40, and drove in the enemy's pickets at about 6 on the City Point road (see statement of Colonel Smith, &c.*). I sent no dispatch stating that I moved from the bridge at 5.30. I was just leaving Copsa's at that time, and General Kautz's command was then probably some 3 miles in advance, closely followed by the infantry. General Kautz informed me that it would take about four hours for him to reach the enemy's works from Copsa's. It actually took about seven hours, although he was in advance of the infantry, and did not delay for them. The plan of following in the rear of the infantry suggested by General Kautz, I changed to prevent unnecessary delay. Where I first speak in my report of driving in the enemy's pickets shortly after 6 o'clock, I mean of course driving them back, and not into their fortifications at that hour. For orders given to General Hinks, and messages received from him on the field, I refer you to the statement of Lieutenant Barnard, of my staff, who will testify under oath to the correctness of his statement.† I gave to General Hinks no orders, and received from him no messages conflicting with these. I understand General Hinks to have been unqualifiedly opposed to making an assault; I have not seen him since that day. On page 39 you say that "General Kautz carried the works and penetrated the town of Petersburg." His own report, now before me, shows that a small force which he drove from the intrenchments successfully opposed him, "at a deep ravine intervening just before reaching the city." He never got beyond that ravine, and never was opposed by any of the troops lining the intrenchments in front of the infantry. The allegations upon page 41 that I failed to state in my report the composition of my command, the time at which I was ordered to act and move, the nearness of my column to the enemy's works, how far in advance or in rear I was of General Hinks, are, I submit, all sufficiently answered in the report as corrected. It must be remembered that by your peremptory order I made the first report in two hours and fifty minutes.

The statement of the force in Petersburg (1,500 men) given on page 43 of your communication, I have good reason to believe is incorrect. I acted upon information much later and more direct than any which could have been at your headquarters. Subsequent events have most fully confirmed me in my opinion. It is intimated on page 45 that the infantry portion of my command should have kept up communication with the cavalry force. I submit that this was impossible, and that General Kautz, as having a mounted command, and being a subordinate officer, should have kept up communication with me.

I touch upon the foregoing points not because they have any importance bearing upon the question at issue, but because they are mentioned with great stress in your communication to me. I submit that they do not touch the merit of the case at all. The question is, did I disobey any order of yours? The facts are these: The expedition to burn the bridges at Petersburg was planned by yourself. I, having expressed a willingness to go, was intrusted with the command. Darkness delayed the troops forty minutes in starting toward the enemy's works. That delay was of no consequence whatever, for there was no special advantage in one hour for an attack over another. The troops advanced upon the fortifications at three points

* See p. 296. † See p. 295.

and on three roads as directed. For some reason the cavalry attack on the left was delayed three hours, and did not take place for five hours after the infantry had driven the enemy inside their works along a portion of the front, and had accomplished everything except an actual open assault. I had no order to make an assault, and upon the unanimous opinions of the officers of rank under me, with which my own coincided, I determined not to make it. I conceive that in so doing I only exercised the discretion left with me, and that I would have been justly held culpable in neglecting to exercise it. I believe that an open assault would have resulted in great slaughter and probable defeat. Colonel Hawley, commanding all the white infantry, says, "If but 400 men could have been in my front to oppose, with even a few pieces of artillery, they ought in all reason to have repulsed me." General Hinks, commanding the colored infantry, sent me word by Lieutenant Barnard, of my staff, that the enemy was much too strong for him in his front, and had been re-enforced by "two regiments," and "that it would be slaughter to attempt an assault." The truth of the matter, general, is simply this: No commander, except one of criminal rashness, would have ordered an assault on those works unless he ignored all the experience of this war. Your general authority to expend a certain number of lives to secure the destruction of certain property meant nothing really, for such things are not matters of barter. One word from my lips on that day would have caused the sacrifice, but in my opinion would not have secured the success. You say upon the subject of an assault and its probable success that it was not my business and that you had ordered it. I must respectfully take issue with you on both these points. The first I will not discuss; the second I most emphatically deny, and again request a copy of the order or the slightest proof of its ever having been given.

For a proof of all the foregoing statements, I have convincing documentary evidence, and can at any time establish my entire innocence, not only of the grave charges you make, but of any neglect. I shall apply for no court of inquiry that will take me from active service until all reasonable sources of prompt redress fail.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

CAMP OF HEADQUARTERS OF U. S. ARMIES.
City Point, June 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
U. S. Volunteers:

GENERAL: I was but once on that portion of the enemy's lines in front of Petersburg approached by you on the 9th and could not at the time locate exactly the roads by which you approached. That part of the line appeared to me stronger than any other. Some parts might be considered through the difficulties of the ground as unassailable, and the portion of the line in question if properly manned could not be successfully assaulted unless with a great preponderance of numbers aided by a powerful artillery.

I am, very respectfully, yours, most obediently,

J. G. BARNARD,
Brig. Gen. and Chief Engineer of Armies in the Field.

A statement of verbal communication held between Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore and Brig. Gen. E. W. Hinks on June 9, 1864.

When General Hinks left the main column with his command I was ordered by General Gillmore to attach myself to his staff and to return as soon as he established his line, and report the shortest line of communication. At 8 a. m. General Hinks took a position in front of the enemy's works and moved to the attack, but finding a battery on his right which could enfilade his line, he halted and ordered up his artillery, directing me to return to General Gillmore, and report that he could not advance until the battery on his right was taken. I returned by way of the road, but reported that possibly communication could be established across the country. About 9.15 a. m. General Gillmore directed me to return to General Hinks and state that Colonel Hawley was about to advance and would drive the enemy within their fortifications and hold them there, and that he (General Gillmore) wished General Hinks to do the same, and that if he saw an opportunity to assault with success he would do so. In this last General Hinks was to use his discretion and not to consider it an order to assault. This time I found a road leading almost direct to General Hinks' headquarters. General Hinks replied that the enemy was much too strong for him, and that he had withdrawn his right to the edge of the woods, from which position he could hold the enemy within their works. He also directed me to inform General Gillmore that there was a full field battery of brass pieces in each of the batteries in his front; that re-enforcements of two regiments had been seen to enter the fortifications from Petersburg, and that "it would be slaughter to attempt an assault," or words to that effect; also that he (General Hinks) had seen the works in front of Colonel Hawley, and considered them formidable. About 11 a. m. I was again sent to General Hinks to inform him that the enemy was advancing a strong skirmish line, and that disposition had been made to oppose them. In case of retreat General Hinks was to be governed by the report of Colonel Hawley's firing. At General Hinks' headquarters I met one of his staff, who reported that General Hinks considered his present position unsafe, as his flanks were exposed, and that he was about to retire to a stronger position half a mile in the rear, but should still hold his present skirmish line commanding the enemy's works. After an unsuccessful attempt to find General Hinks I returned to General Gillmore's headquarters. At 1 p. m. General Gillmore directed me to request General Hinks to fall back to the clover-field, but not to enter the City Point road until Colonel Hawley had passed down with his command. This last was delivered at 1.30 p. m. At 1.40 p. m. General Hinks was retiring.

JAS. M. BARNARD, JR.,
First Lieutenant and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., June 11, 1864.

[Indorsement.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., *June 22, 1864.*

I certify that the verbal orders which I sent Brigadier-General Hinks, June 9, 1864, and the messages brought back from him by Lieutenant Barnard, acting aide-de-camp on my staff, are correctly given in the within statement to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

Major-General GILLMORE:

The works defending Petersburg I found very strong, and such as could not have been carried by assault had they been properly manned. In the works carried by my command on the 15th, one-fourth the assailing force, unless surprised, should have made a powerful if not a successful defense.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

No. 3.

Statement of Brig. Gen. Robert S. Foster, U. S. Army, Chief of Staff, Tenth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., June 12, 1864.

GENERAL: In answer to your inquiry for my opinion as to the propriety of having assaulted the position of the enemy in front of Petersburg, on the 9th of this month, I have the honor to state that I was a great portion of the time with Colonel Hawley (commanding brigade) while he was in front of the enemy's defenses. I made a careful survey of the position, and found it to be along a rising piece of ground, with redoubts, connected by rifle-pits. The approaches to the position were in some places almost impassable, and in others the troops would be necessarily obliged to march to the assault over open ground, commanded by artillery in the redoubts. The troops were already under the fire of the enemy's infantry and his artillery. Colonel Hawley's line was necessarily along their line, and did not connect with General Hinks (to the left). After talking with Colonel Hawley, and carefully reviewing the position, I reported to you my opinion was against an assault from this point; as I believed then, and do now, that the chances were greatly in favor of its being unsuccessful. What I received and thought was fair information as to the strength of the enemy, also strengthened my objections to an assault, and in no event (in my opinion) could it have been accomplished without serious loss of life.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers and Chief of Staff.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps.

No. 4.

Statement of Lieut. Col. Edward W. Smith, Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army.

NEAR HATCHER'S, VA., *June 16, 1864.*

GENERAL: In compliance with your verbal request, I have the honor to submit the following statement:

On the 9th instant I accompanied you as your assistant adjutant-general on the expedition against Petersburg. Your column started from the pontoon bridge at 3.40 a. m. I am certain of this fact, hav-

ing consulted my watch just before mounting. At a little after 6 a. m. a small party of cavalry belonging to your escort, and marching a short distance in advance of the head of the column, was fired upon by the enemy's pickets. Colonel Hawley deployed skirmishers from his column and gradually drove the enemy back. This was on the City Point road, just this side of Jordan's house.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
U. S. Volunteers.

No. 5.

Statement of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, U. S. Army, commanding First Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, June 14, 1864.

At the request of Major-General Gillmore, I make the following statement of facts:

On the evening of the 8th instant I received an order from him to detail one of the brigades of my division to form part of the expedition to Petersburg, which was to take place the next day; 1,400 was also mentioned to me as the number of men that would be wanted. In accordance with this order, I detailed my Second Brigade, under command of Col. J. R. Hawley, of the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers. General Gillmore directed me to send this force down the intrenchments to the pontoon bridge across the Appomattox near Point of Rocks. I suggested to him that the moving of so large a body of men along the intrenchments might attract the notice of the enemy's outposts, and, as the movement was to be a secret one, that it would be better to send them by the road from Hatcher's. After some conversation, General Gillmore assented to my suggestion, and Colonel Hawley was directed to take that road, and was furnished with a guide to conduct him over it.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

No. 6.

Report of Lieut. Col. Samuel B. Taylor, Sixty-second Ohio Infantry, First Brigade.

HDQRS. SIXTY-SECOND REGT. OHIO VETERAN VOLS.,
Point of Rocks, Va., June 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of my regiment while under the command of Colonel Hawley, commanding brigade:

Being assigned to the left of your brigade, I moved forward about 4 a. m. the 9th instant. The enemy's pickets being driven in about 8.30 a. m., I was ordered forward as a reserve to the skirmish line.

I took up a position about 600 yards in their rear, and formed line of battle. Remained in this position until 11 a. m., when I was ordered to move some 500 yards to the rear and form line of battle, for the purpose of drawing in the skirmishers. After the line of skirmishers had passed through, I was ordered to move my regiment to the rear. After marching about 1 mile, I was ordered to file into the field for the purpose of getting dinner. Took up the line of march about 1 p. m., my regiment bringing up the rear of the infantry. Moved steadily forward to the pontoon, where I arrived a few minutes before 6 p. m., and on being ordered by the general commanding, I moved my regiment to its old camp, where I arrived at 6.15 p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. B. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. E. L. MOORE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 7.

Report of Col. Joseph R. Hawley, Seventh Connecticut Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred Intrenchments, Va., June 10, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command in the expedition toward Petersburg on the 9th instant:

That command consisted of my own brigade, the Seventh New Hampshire, Col. Joseph C. Abbott; Third New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Josiah I. Plimpton commanding; Sixth Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Lorenzo Meeker commanding, and the Seventh Connecticut, Capt. Theodore Bacon commanding, numbering about 1,500 rifles. Upon crossing the Appomattox I found the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, Lieut. Col. Samuel B. Taylor commanding, which had been ordered to report to me for the day. Its numbers have not been given, but I judge that it had at least 450 men. Lieut. J. P. Sanger, Battery D, First U. S. Artillery, reported to me there also with four guns, two 3-inch rifles, and two light 12-pounders. My orders were to be ready to march at 9 p. m. on the 8th, with two days' cooked rations. Three of the regiments were already there on their color lines. The Seventh New Hampshire was a little late, having got in late from outpost duty, but it soon after reported ready. Twice during the evening I sent a request for a guide to the pontoon bridge, my command being entirely unacquainted with the country toward the Appomattox. At about 10.30 orders came from Brigadier-General Terry to move my brigade across the Appomattox, assume command there of the Sixty-second Ohio and Lieutenant Sanger's artillery, and await orders. I was directed to call at Major-General Butler's headquarters for a guide to the pontoon bridge, and to retain the orderly bringing the dispatch as a guide to those quarters. I ordered the brigade started immediately, saw it in motion, and leaving two aides with it with directions (as I was ordered) to bring it to Major-General Gillmore's quarters, I rode on and

reported to Brigadier-General Foster, chief of staff, Tenth Corps. I inquired of him as to the roads, and he gave me a cavalryman who had, as orderly, almost daily gone (as the man said) to Major-General Butler's or the Point of Rocks. I received no further orders than those I have recounted. The head of my column appearing and having halted possibly five minutes, I started it and led it with my staff and the guides, and proceeded on the road toward Bermuda Hundred Landing some distance, and then turned to the right, following the telegraph line. The guides insisted that they were upon the right road, but it was almost impassable at certain points, compelling the men to go into mud and water 1 or 2 feet deep. I went ahead with one of the guides, reached open country near the Point of Rocks, and my guide and I being utterly ignorant of the proper course, I dispatched him to Major-General Butler for information. When he returned I gave the information to Colonel Spear, who, with his regiment of cavalry, was also at a loss for his road. The head of my column then appeared, and I found two of Major-General Butler's staff, who had met it. The column had opened wide gaps owing to the horrible condition of the road and some delay occurred in closing it up. The head crossed the Appomattox after 2 a. m. of the 9th, the rear crossed about 3. Going up the hill, and directing that the brigade should do the same, I found the Sixty-second Ohio and then reported to Major-General Gillmore in the house on the hill-side. Ascertaining my place in the column, and waiting for some cavalry and artillery forces to come up the hill, I started at the proper time. Marching perhaps half a mile, I saw a column of colored troops marching on a road converging toward ours. I told the leading officer my orders and he fell behind me. We moved as the column moved, until we diverged from the other forces and followed the general course of the City Point railroad toward Petersburg, Major-General Gillmore and staff and a detachment of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry led the way. Pickets or vedettes were encountered, but the infantry was not called for until we neared a house called A. Jordan's, I am told, just beyond which our road turning to the right crossed the railroad, descending to a broad plain diversified with woods, and with roads skirted by hedges, and crossed in various directions by ditches lined with bushes. At Jordan's a smart skirmishing fire started, a cavalryman was killed, and, to dislodge the enemy, I deployed a company of the Seventh Connecticut, quickly sending another to its left, and throwing my leading regiment, the Seventh New Hampshire, into line of battle and the remainder of the Seventh Connecticut behind it in column by company (it was organized as six companies only), closed en masse. The land in front was exceedingly rough for some distance. My skirmishers steadily drove the rebels, exchanging frequent shots. Crossing the railroad a portion of my column, turning to the right, went down into the plain, while the rest I left on the commanding ground near Jordan's, to take care of any force coming on the line of the railroad. The country was wholly new to me. I knew nothing whatever of the defenses of Petersburg, or of the forces there, except a report that they were very light, while it was considered a point vital to the daily existence of the rebellion, and within a few hours' reach of 100,000 rebels. I was ordered to push the rebel skirmishers who appeared on the plain. I did so as rapidly as possible, Captain Richmond, of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, materially assisting me in dislodging them from a house and

its buildings on the plain, and otherwise. The road first tending toward the Appomattox then turned to the left, apparently going toward Petersburg, which could be plainly seen from the higher ground. I went as far on the plain as was at all safe, even having four regiments of my command and a section of artillery down there, while the woody region down the railroad had not been reconnoitered. As we first went down upon the plain, a shot from an unseen field piece passed far over our heads. I had only sent a company of the Sixth Connecticut, under Captain Nichols, to move down that road, skirmishing on the high ground. Constantly informing the chief of staff, General Foster, of all that took place, and everything that my vigilant skirmishers told me, he ordered me to send the Third New Hampshire, under Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton, along the railroad in the woods, with his right touching that road. I also sent one more company of the Sixth Connecticut to strengthen Captain Nichols, and begged General Foster to supervise the movement along the railroad, as I could not take care of that and my four regiments, and their skirmishers on the plain. The orders were to "simulate an attack." The skirmishers on the plain changed their direction to the left, to conform to the changed course of the road, and, being strengthened, nearly enough connected with those of Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton and Captain Nichols. Those officers advanced to within 200 or 300 yards of a strong earth-work on the left of the railroad, the light artillery in which annoyed my forces on the plain, throwing at times far over them at our squads of cavalry, and again throwing canister at our skirmishers there. I was ordered to make no unnecessary exposure of my men, but to crowd the enemy whenever there was opportunity. Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton and Captain Nichols were protected by the nature of the ground and the woods. From the right of my line, as well as from their position, the rebel works were plainly visible. To assault it from the plain was impracticable; the ground was bad and the open approach exposed to the fire of one if not both of the works on its left, between it and the Appomattox, but retired considerably toward the city. Apparently, the practicable approach was on the easterly or southerly side of the railroad, where Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton was. Before assaulting there I should have withdrawn my forces from the plain, leaving, say, perhaps one regiment to guard my right flank against approaches from that road, detained one regiment as reserve between Jordan's and the work, and assaulted with the remaining three. Nothing remained but for me to receive orders for and execute such a movement. I was as near as there was any use in going without assaulting, and the work on the railroad seemed to me by all means the one to be carried first. It was manned; forces beyond it and nearer Petersburg could be seen, two or three pieces of artillery had fired from it, and had we succeeded in taking it there would still have been three creeks and 2 miles' travel between us and any important point in Petersburg. Brisk firing was heard during the forenoon on our left, caused, as I suppose, by General Hinks' column. Holding my ground, I waited for orders. What information I could [get] was promptly communicated to my commanding officer. About 1 o'clock, I think, I received orders to withdraw. I called in the scattered cavalry, ordered the Seventh Connecticut skirmishers to come together in the road, and to act as a rear guard, and directed Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton and Captain Nichols to hold fast until I could get up from the plain into

the road in rear of them. I put the Sixty-second Ohio in line of battle on the right of Jordan's house, and Lieutenant Sanger's artillery was unlimbered just in the rear. Moving leisurely back, I heard distant artillery and musketry firing in the southeast. When the three regiments had passed the Sixty-second, I put one of them in line and notified Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton and Captain Nichols to withdraw. When all but a rear guard of 20 cavalrymen had passed the Sixty-second Ohio, that regiment filed into the road and the artillery limbered up. Falling back a mile or less from Jordan's, by order from Major-General Gillmore, the brigade stacked arms, rested an hour, and ate dinner. Its next move brought it to the railroad, where it halted another hour; thence it moved slowly, reaching the Appomattox just before sunset, and crossed and returned to camp.

Officers and men conducted themselves to my satisfaction, with the trifling exception of half a dozen men as usual, stragglers or marauders.

I have been exceedingly minute for reasons which need not be mentioned. I trust that I have not been too prolix. The casualties of the day were only 10.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Colonel Seventh Connecticut, Commanding Brigade.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Corps.

ADDENDA.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred Intrenchments, Va., June 12, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

SIR: In response to a verbal request from you to state the opinion held by me while before the defensive works of Petersburg, on the 9th, and now, as to the practicability of an assault upon those works, I have the honor to reply as follows:

In responding briefly as required, it will be impossible to give the reasons and arguments, or sketches of the ground to illustrate and sustain the opinion. I only give the opinion itself. My own brigade consists of the Third and Seventh New Hampshire, and Sixth and Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, each of which has had experience in the most deadly assaults. The Sixty-second Ohio was for the day under my command. Such was the ground, and the extent of it covered by my 2,000 men, that I could not see everything myself, but was obliged, as everybody is under such circumstances, to take the facts given by my officers and men skirmishing, and by the different regimental commanders from their different points of view. I did, however, take a fair look at the main rebel work on its west side; and for the east side, my left, where I could not go and keep control of four of my five regiments, I relied upon Lieutenant-Colonel Plimpton, commanding Third New Hampshire Volunteers, whose unhesitating bravery in desperate assaults and on the open field make his authority valuable. Colonel Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire, on my right (only skirmishers were beyond him), gave testimony, concurring with all the rest. I am bound to suppose

that such works, covering a point almost perfectly vital to the rebellion, were not left without defenders; indeed we saw them, and heard from them. It was my deliberate opinion then, and is now, that an assault upon the formidable work near the railroad (and it would have been contrary to all sound rules to leave that behind or dodge it) promised to be a most murderous affair, with the odds largely against us. I knew nothing of the real forces of the enemy within the town. It was evident that they were on the alert. I could not extend far enough on the right to drive into town all their sharpshooters. I knew not what force might be over on the right toward the Appomattox, and I should not have dared to put all my force into one assault. Then, if but 400 could have been in my front to oppose, with even a few pieces of artillery, they ought in all reason to have repulsed me. That main work is on high ground, and rises well above that even, and a large portion of the ground about it is almost impassable. My left, where an assault would have been made, was as near as it ought to be before making a final disposition for a charge. Nothing remained to do but to assault. What can be said now after the event, and with advantages for knowing perhaps fully the forces and movements of the enemy inside, I do not know; but of this I am as well convinced as ever, I was right in thinking that an assault was not advisable. Had we carried that work, we should still have had 2 miles to go to reach the railroad bridge, the chief object in view I suppose, with still further defenses, troops (in sight), and creeks and houses in our way, and furthermore without the expectation of any more aid, and with the intention of returning that night to Bermuda Hundred. Had we been ordered to storm the works, we should have gone up of course, and adapting ourselves to the circumstances, should have made the fight as savage, short, and sharp as possible. I am glad, however, that what I call better counsels prevailed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Colonel Seventh Connecticut, Commanding Brigade.

No. 8.

Report of Lieut. Col. Lorenzo Meeker, Sixth Connecticut Infantry.

HDQRS. SIXTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., June 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report concerning the part taken by this regiment in the reconnaissance toward Petersburg, Va., June 9, 1864:

About 11 p. m. the 8th instant the regiment moved from its camp in rear of the intrenchments at Bermuda Hundred, marched in a circuitous route to Point of Rocks, and crossed the Appomattox River about 2 o'clock the 9th instant. Halted on the south side of the river until about sunrise, when we commenced our line of march toward Petersburg. With the exception of Companies D and G, the regiment was not actively engaged, acting only as a support to the advanced lines. About 8.30 a. m. Company D, being detached from the regiment, advanced by orders of Col. J. R. Hawley, commanding brigade, along the City Point railroad in the direction of

Petersburg, a distance of about 600 yards, and within about 200 yards of the enemy's battery. At 9 a. m. the enemy's line of skirmishers was observed by this company to fall back out of the woods on our right, being driven by our forces, and establish their line in an open wheat-field. Shortly afterward they (the enemy) were re-enforced by about 50 men from Petersburg. About 10 a. m. Company G was sent to support Company D, and both companies engaged the enemy's line of skirmishers until ordered to fall back. The companies rejoined the regiment about 1 p. m. and with it returned to camp.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LORENZO MEEKER,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Sixth Connecticut Volunteers.

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Brigade.

No. 9.

Report of Capt. Theodore Bacon, Seventh Connecticut Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,
Near Bermuda Hundred, Va., June 12, 1864.

SIR: This regiment numbering 14 officers and 370 men, left camp at 11 p. m. Wednesday, June 8, in light marching order and with two days' rations. About 2 o'clock in the morning of the 9th we crossed the pontoon bridge over the Appomattox and lay down in line, just beyond the bridge, until shortly after daylight. With the rest of the column, under Colonel Hawley's command, we then moved forward toward Petersburg, immediately following the Seventh New Hampshire, which had the advance. About 8 o'clock, having moved slowly on account of the condition of the roads, the cavalry in our front came upon the enemy's outposts. The first of the six companies into which this battalion was temporarily organized, under Lieutenant Wildman, was at once sent to the front and deployed as skirmishers, followed almost immediately by the second company, Captain Townsend; the rest of the battalion was formed into column of companies closed in mass. The enemy's skirmishers being driven back, a farther advance of nearly a mile was made by several successive movements, this regiment still following the Seventh New Hampshire by the flank in the road. At the farthest point reached the regiment lay in the road for two hours or more, or until noon, under such cover as could be found from the enemy's shells, which toward the end were thrown at us with considerable accuracy, the first two companies meanwhile engaging the enemy's skirmishers quite sharply. About noon, in obedience to orders from the brigade commander, my regiment was withdrawn by the left flank, following the Sixth Connecticut and preceding the Seventh New Hampshire. The movement in retreat was from this point by successive lines, this regiment alternating with the others in the column. At the first position, nearly a mile to the rear at which this regiment came into line, the two companies of skirmishers (which had been re-enforced toward the last by about 20 men from the third company) rejoined us and took their place in line. At 2 p. m. a halt of an hour was made for rest and dinner. About 6 the bridge over the Appomattox was reached and crossed,

and the regiment went into camp, greatly exhausted by fatigue and want of sleep, between 8 and 9 o'clock.

The short list* of casualties appended shows that the labor and danger of the day fell especially upon the detachment of skirmishers.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. BACON,
Captain, Comdg. Seventh Connecticut Volunteers.

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Brigade.

ADDENDA.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS,
Near Bermuda Hundred, Va., June 12, 1864.

Col. J. R. HAWLEY,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: In reply to a verbal request from you for an expression of my opinion upon the subject, I do not hesitate to say that an assault upon the enemy's works before Petersburg, by the force under your command, on the 9th instant, would have seemed to me in the highest degree unwise; in fact, considering the ample notice which the enemy had of our movement—many hours' notice—by the time our lines could have been formed for an assault, such an attempt would have afforded, at the best, only the most desperate chances of success.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. BACON,
Captain, Comdg. Seventh Connecticut Volunteers.

No. 10.

Statement of Lieut. Col. Josiah I. Plimpton, Third New Hampshire Infantry.

HDQRS. THIRD NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., June 12, 1864.

SIR: Having been verbally requested by you to give my opinion of the practicability of storming the works of the enemy around Petersburg, I have the honor to state that on the 9th instant my regiment first occupied a position in the edge of a piece of woods near the open field on the north of the City Point and Petersburg Railroad, and afterward moved to a high ridge on the south of the above railroad, and in front of and about 200 yards from a strong redoubt of the enemy. From these positions I had a good opportunity to see the town (about 1¼ miles distant) and the enemy's lines. I consider the lines of works quite strong and capable of being held by a small force against large numbers, the redoubts and batteries being so situated as to rake all the ground by which we could approach the town so far as I could see. It is my opinion that our forces on the 9th instant were entirely too small to attempt to enter the town.

J. I. PLIMPTON,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Third New Hampshire Volunteers.

Col. J. R. HAWLEY,
Commanding Second Brigade.

* Not found.

No. 11.

Report of Col. Joseph C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire Infantry.

HDQRS. SEVENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., June 10, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my regiment in the reconnaissance of the 9th instant:

I moved from camp at about 10 p. m. of the 8th instant, and, occupying the right of Hawley's brigade, marched toward the Appomattox. I reached and crossed the pontoon bridge at a little before 3 a. m. of the 9th, when a halt was ordered. At about 4 a. m. the march was resumed on the road toward Petersburg. Other troops were in advance of me. Nothing worthy of note occurred until the column had advanced about 5 miles, when the cavalry, which was in advance, encountered the enemy's pickets. This was not far from 7 a. m. By order of Colonel Hawley, my regiment was deployed in line of battle, and, preceded by skirmishers from the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, advanced across an open field. The enemy's skirmishers retired, and by order of Colonel Hawley I returned my regiment to the road, and proceeded through a belt of woods across the Petersburg and City Point Railroad, down a slight ravine, and came into an open meadow which extended for half a mile on the right of the road, while on the left of the road was partly open field and partly wood. The road here took a southerly direction. I was first directed by Colonel Hawley to form a line of battle on each side of the road and at right angles with it, which I did, but soon after, by his order, returned to the road again, still following the skirmishers. After passing about 500 yards from the edge of the woods, I was ordered to halt. At the point where I halted there was thick woods on the left, and the meadow above mentioned on the right of the road. This position I occupied until about 12 m. On the left of the road, at a distance of about 500 yards, was an earth-work, from which spherical case-shot and canister were occasionally thrown, but with little effect. At about 12 m., receiving the order to retire, I proceeded back on the road, followed by the skirmishers. I halted a short time where the enemy's pickets were first encountered, and then with several halts returned to the Appomattox. I arrived at the bridge at about 7 p. m. After a brief halt at this point I crossed and returned to camp, where I arrived about 8 p. m. My casualties in the reconnaissance were, wounded, 2.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully,

JOSEPH C. ABBOTT,
Colonel Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers.

Lieut. E. LEWIS MOORE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

HDQRS. SEVENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTERS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., June 12, 1864.

Col. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY,
Seventh Connecticut Vols., Comdg. Second Brigade:

COLONEL: In reply to your request, made at the suggestion of Major-General Gillmore, that I would give an opinion as to the propriety of an assault on the enemy's work on the Petersburg and City Point Railroad, encountered by your brigade on the 9th instant,

I have the honor to state that the position which I occupied was on the right (northward and westward) of the work, and was not such as enabled me to make a very close examination of it; that I did, however, make such an examination as I was able, and certain things became evident, viz, that the work was high, and difficult of approach, on account of the nature of the ground, the obstructions, and the steepness of the ascent; and that it was strongly manned. While I supposed at the time that an assault was to be attempted, my opinion was that it must be done at great hazard and sacrifice, and probably with disastrous results. This opinion was formed without any further information in regard to the strength of the work, its armament, and the force within it, than was apparent to any one from the point which I occupied; but I have received no information since which has led me to change that opinion.

I am, colonel, very respectfully,

JOSEPH C. ABBOTT,
Colonel Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers.

No. 12.

Report of Brig. Gen. Edward W. Hinks, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS HINKS' DIVISION,
City Point, Va., June 10, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of operations under the order of Major-General Butler, dated June 8, 1864, 3 p. m. (Copy appended, marked A):*

Immediately after dark I moved two regiments—1,300 men of my command—to the vicinity of Broadway, and repaired to the pontoon bridge at about 9 o'clock, where I received the dispatch from Major-General Butler, dated June 8, 1864, 11 p. m. (Copy appended, marked B.)† At about 2.45 a. m. of June 9 General Gillmore arrived at the pontoon bridge, and at 3.30 a. m., his troops having all crossed, I returned to Copsa's, where one of my regiments was bivouacked, and awaited the arrival of the rest of the column. At about 5 o'clock I marched from Copsa's, closely following the advance of General Kautz, and on arriving at Bailey's received an order from General Gillmore, dated June 9, 5 a. m. (Copy appended, marked C.)‡ I asked General Gillmore if it was the intention to hold on to the enemy's works as long as possible at any rate, and he answered me, "No; unless we take them within an hour it will be useless to attempt it, and you must use your discretion in the attack." I immediately moved forward, understanding that General Gillmore was to move to the right of Bailey's, toward the Appomattox, and then we were to make co-operative attacks. A staff officer of General Gillmore accompanied me to see my forces in position, and then report to the general. At about 7 a. m. the 9th instant I crossed Bailey's Creek, on the Jordan's Point road, and drove the enemy's pickets into his works in Jordan's and Friend's fields, deploying my forces at Ruffin's house and advancing to the crest of the height, when, finding that my line was in advance of the enemy's works upon the right, some 600 yards distant, and would be exposed to a flank fire, I attempted to get a battery into position to engage the work either

* See Part III, p. 707. † Not found as an inclosure.
‡ See Gillmore's report, p. 388.

upon right or left, and sent General Gillmore word that I was in position, that my right flank was advanced beyond the enemy's works and exposed to an enfilading fire, and that I would advance as soon as I could get my battery to bear upon some point of the enemy's line. Finding it impossible to bring the battery into action unless I left it without a support, and exposed to a cross-fire, I sent it back to Ruffin's house, and advanced some 50 yards farther with my infantry. Hearing no firing on my right, where I expected a co-operative attack, I now notified General Gillmore that the enemy was in considerable force in the works in my front, which were too strong to be carried by assault with the troops at my disposal for the purpose, as I was exposed to a fire from the works on my right, and should be obliged to protect my flank by sending back part of my force, and received from him a verbal dispatch that he should immediately drive the enemy into his works and hold him there, whereupon I retained my position, hoping that the enemy's works would be engaged on my right and an opportunity given me to go in. It was now about 10 a. m. Shortly afterward I was notified by General Gillmore that the enemy was advancing in a strong line against his left, which, upon the explanation of his staff officer, I found to be in the rear of my line, in the swamp. At about 12 o'clock I was notified that General Gillmore's forces were withdrawing, and thereupon moved my artillery and reserve across Bailey's Creek to Bryant's house. At 1 p. m., on an order from General Gillmore, I withdrew my line from front of the enemy's works to Bryant's, and at about 2 o'clock was ordered to return to Bailey's house, where I joined the column of General Gillmore.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDW. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
A. A. G., Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina.

ADDENDA.

HDQRS. HINKS' DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Petersburg, June 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE:

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from you in the following words, to wit:

HATCHER'S, VA., *June* 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. W. HINKS:

DEAR SIR: When before the defenses of Petersburg, on the 9th instant, your opinion was decidedly adverse to making an assault with the force you had (some 1,200 or 1,300 men). In your report of the operations of that day you give expression to similar views. Will you oblige me by stating whether, now that those works are in your possession, you are confirmed in the opinion entertained on the 9th, and also, in case the works in our front had been carried by an assault on that day, whether in your opinion the city could have been taken on that day?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

And respectfully inform you, in reply, I am now confirmed in the opinion expressed to you on the 9th instant, and repeated in my report of the operations of that day, which "opinion was decidedly adverse to making an assault with the force I had (some 1,300 or

1,300 men)." The works are very much stronger than I had any idea of at that time, and are continued along almost all the interval to Petersburg, rendering it very doubtful whether the city could have been taken even had we succeeded in carrying the first line. Fifteen hundred men in these works ought to have held in check at least 7,500 men assaulting from this front.

EDW. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

No. 13.

Report of Brig. Gen. August V. Kautz, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, near Point of Rocks, June 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the cavalry of my command, on the 9th instant, against Petersburg; also the reports of regimental and brigade commanders:

In obedience to instructions previously received, the command, consisting of portions of the Eleventh and Fifth Pennsylvania and First District of Columbia Cavalry, and a section of the Eighth New York Battery, about 1,300 men in all, commenced moving from camp between 11 and 12 o'clock the night previous. The infantry of General Gillmore's command, which should have preceded the cavalry, was delayed, and a portion of the cavalry also, in consequence, did not get across the Appomattox River until daylight. The cavalry then took the advance, marching south to the City Point road, where we captured 3 of the enemy's pickets, about 10 miles out from their intrenchments. The march was continued on roads nearly parallel to the enemy's works to the Jordan's Point, Prince George, and Norfolk and Petersburg roads. Near the Prince George road we were delayed in driving Colonel Taliaferro's (Sixty-second Georgia Cavalry) [Seventh Confederate Cavalry] regiment out of their camp near their intrenchments, as skirmishers of his command were annoying the column. This regiment was reported by several prisoners that we captured to be between 300 and 400 strong. The march was continued to the Jerusalem plank road, which we struck at a point about 4 miles from the intrenchments. The circuit proved greater than I expected, and we did not reach the enemy's lines until midday, marching continuously, as we were meeting the enemy's pickets on every road and they all retreated to a common center, except 4 or 5 that we captured. The enemy had the advantage of knowing our movements. On reaching the enemy's lines, it was evident that they were not strongly defended. The force seemed about 200 strong, with one piece of artillery. The First District of Columbia Cavalry were dismounted and deployed as skirmishers with a portion of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry on the right of the road. The Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry (mounted) moved forward in line on the works on the left to the intrenchments, where they dismounted and fired from the parapet. In about an hour we had carried the works and killed, wounded, or captured almost the entire force, with the piece of artillery and caisson.

As soon as a squadron or two could be mounted we moved on toward town. A deep ravine intervening just before reaching the city,

and no enemy being visible, the advance was ordered to proceed into the city. On reaching the bottom of the ravine four pieces of artillery and several hundred muskets suddenly opened from the opposite crest, from such an elevation, however, that they overshot us. No one apparently was injured. Before the second volley opened the advance had fallen back under cover. The prospect of entering the city was here suddenly defeated, for while I thought it possible that the enemy was at that moment not very strong, it was strong enough to delay me an hour or two in the commanding position they held. By that time they could be re-enforced. I could hear nothing of General Gillmore's command; no firing could be heard in the direction of City Point, and I felt certain that his forces had retired. I therefore ordered the command to fall back, and as we retired the enemy opened from our right at long range with one piece of artillery and some musketry. Before leaving the intrenchments the enemy's camp of forty or fifty tents and some huts were burned, and also a large house with some stores and ammunition. We moved off and returned by the route we came and were not pursued or molested after getting on the road. We captured altogether 42 prisoners. Some of the officers who had better opportunity of knowing report the enemy's killed quite large. Quite a number of their wounded were left behind for want of transportation. The force that held the intrenchments were mostly residents of Petersburg and Prince George County, belonging to the second class reserves. The loss of one gun and two carriages was not reported to me until we had retired, and I know nothing of the circumstances except what is contained in Lieutenant Morton's report. Had I known it in time I am satisfied that the gun at least would have been saved.

The conduct of the men on this expedition was even better than I expected, for while I have great confidence in them as cavalry, I did not know what they would do in assaulting intrenchments. The Eleventh Pennsylvania had the advance and as usual were constantly capturing the enemy's pickets, for which they seem to possess a great superiority. The First District of Columbia was the first within the intrenchments and pushed the enemy from the right to the left and some of them were the first to lay hand on the gun captured in front of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry. The Fifth moved up in line on the works in fine order, dismounted, and took position on the parapet. The officers serving on my staff who were with me, Doctor Rivers, Major Wetherill, Captain Asch, and Lieutenant Allis were, as before, of the greatest service to the command.

The following is a summary of the killed, wounded, and missing:

Troops.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
1st District of Columbia Cavalry	.....	6	.....	6
3d New York Cavalry	.....	1	.....	1
11th Pennsylvania Cavalry	3	7	4	14
5th Pennsylvania Cavalry	1	12	2	15
Total	4	26	6	36

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Chief of Cavalry.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
A. A. G., Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina.

No. 14.

Report of Lieut. Col. Everton J. Conger, First District of Columbia Cavalry, First Brigade.

HDQRS. FIRST DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CAVALRY,
In the Field, June 11, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following as the report of the First Regiment District of Columbia Cavalry on the recent march to Petersburg, Va.:

Received instructions in person from the general commanding division to be in readiness to march at 12 midnight, June 8, 1864. Crossed the Appomattox on pontoon bridge and joined the rear of the column, as per order of march. By a circuitous and unknown route, arrived at the first line of intrenchments for the defense of Petersburg at 12 m. June 9, 1864, and found the enemy displayed in some force behind a long line of earth-works supported by artillery. By order of the general commanding moved forward two squadrons and deployed on our right. This force turned the left of the enemy's position, drove them to the rear and right of the works across the pike; was here supported by the third squadron ordered to the front by the general. Passing to the enemy's left we captured 1 brass 12-pounder howitzer and 35 prisoners, including 4 commissioned officers, as per verbal receipt of the officer in charge of provost guard, to whom they were turned over.

By actual count of officers, from 30 to 40 of the enemy were killed and some 15 were wounded and lying on the ground on our right of the pike. One captain and 2 lieutenants were among the killed. The officer who had command on the extreme right reports that many dead and wounded were lying in the rear of the camp (which was burned) and not included in the above, also an adjutant (G. G. Johnson) and some dead and wounded were on the left of the pike. Before leaving the ground I ordered a house on the left of the enemy's works to be burned. In it were found 72 boxes spherical case or shell and 20 boxes small-arm ammunition. The house was used as defense and headquarters of the enemy. It is unnecessary to enumerate the names of officers and men for gallant conduct, when all did well. Returning, brought up the rear of the column and arrived at our old camp at 12 midnight. The following is a list of the casualties:*

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. J. CONGER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

[Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ.]

No. 15.

Report of Col. Samuel P. Spear, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,
In the Field, June 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report concerning the operations of my brigade during the expedition to Petersburg on the 9th instant:

Pursuant to instructions from division headquarters, my brigade,

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 2 officers and 4 men wounded.

consisting of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, 640 men, two mountain howitzers, commanded by Lieut. Col. George Stetzel, and the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, 450 men and two howitzers, commanded by Major Kleinz, left camp at 11.30 p. m. on 8th instant, crossed the pontoon bridge over the Appomattox, and marched forward about 2 miles. There halted until 4.30 a. m. on the 9th, when I took the line of march toward the Jordan's Point road, the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry in advance. The advance guard soon came upon and charged the enemy's pickets, capturing 4 of them, 3 being wounded. I then marched on to the above-named road, and out in the direction of the Petersburg plank road. When within 7 miles of the plank road the advance was again fired upon by the enemy. I ordered the carbineers of the Eleventh to dismount and skirmish the woods to the front, and two squadrons of the Fifth to the right and left. The enemy opened upon the Fifth with howitzers. One squadron from that regiment charged them, driving them from their camp into intrenchments. In the flight they left arms, horse equipments, and clothing in considerable quantity, and which we destroyed. The front being cleared by the Eleventh, the command was mounted and proceeded on the route. On approaching the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad, the advance guard again came upon the enemy's pickets, charged them and wounded 1 mortally. The remainder made their escape to the woods. On reaching the plank road at 10.30 a. m., 5 miles from Petersburg, I received instructions from the general commanding to march in the direction of Petersburg. I did so, driving in and capturing some of the enemy's pickets on the road. Within 1 mile of the city I came in sight of the earth-works, consisting of four redoubts and a line of intrenchments about half a mile in length. I ordered one squadron of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry to charge the works with drawn sabers, which they did in gallant style, but owing to the superior force and position of the enemy, they were compelled to fall back, forming line again in advance of the main column. After due consultation with the general commanding, I made a careful reconnaissance of the enemy's position, and ordered the following disposition of my command: On the right, carbineers of the Eleventh to dismount and advance as skirmishers. One squadron, mounted, of the Eleventh was ordered to the extreme right and one to the extreme left, with orders to charge in concert with dismounted line of skirmishers; the remainder of the Eleventh were posted on the center and right center, with orders to charge mounted on the appearance of wavering or confusion among the enemy. The Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry was ordered and took position on the left of the road, with orders to storm the two redoubts in their front and penetrate the line of intrenchments. The line moved forward simultaneously, under cover of two 6-pounder rifled guns, commanded by Lieutenant Morton, Eighth New York Battery, and two 12-pounder mountain howitzers of the Fifth, the right being assisted by a detachment from First District. The enemy received us with a determined and vigorous musketry fire along the whole line; also on the left with grape and canister from one piece of artillery. The position occupied by the enemy was well chosen and defended with obstinacy. Our assaulting party continued to press forward in the face of the fire, captured the redoubts, and occupied them, then prepared to charge the line of intrenchments, which was done, and the works carried, with a loss to the enemy of 30 killed, many wounded,

among whom were several officers left on the field, and about 40 prisoners, besides one piece of artillery and a large quantity of small-arms. The latter were destroyed by our men. The squadron on the right charged around the works to within one-half of a mile of Petersburg; there halted for the main column. Owing to obstructions the squadron on the extreme left could not move forward, whereby the principal portion of the enemy made their escape into the woods close by. These works were said to be defended by two regiments of militia and one of regulars under the supervision of General Beauregard. On the approach of the main column the advance squadron moved forward. It was ascertained that during the engagement mentioned the enemy had received large re-enforcements, and when the advance reached within 150 yards of Petersburg the enemy opened with musketry, grape, and canister from four pieces of artillery posted on a bluff immediately in front of the town. The fire was so severe that I ordered the advance to wheel to the left about and retired about 50 yards to the cover of a bluff along the road. There I halted about ten minutes until it was ascertained the column had left and the enemy approaching in force. I retired slowly, soon met the general commanding, stated the condition of the enemy's force, and was ordered to fall back slowly, which was done, after a delay of one hour and a half, in order to prosecute a search for wounded and missing. My rear guard was followed by infantry, cavalry, and artillery for a distance of 2 miles from Petersburg. A detachment of the First District then formed in the rear of my column, and I returned to camp with my command, reaching here at 10.30 p. m.

Inclosed please find the reports* of my regimental commanders with lists of casualties.

I am, captain, with high respect, your obedient servant,

S. P. SPEAR,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. M. J. ASCH,
A. A. A. G., Kautz's Cav. Div., 18th Army Corps.

ADDENDA.

HATCHER'S, VA., *June* 18, 1864.

Col. S. P. SPEAR,
Second Cavalry Brigade:

DEAR SIR: You led the advance of Kautz's attack on the left on the fortifications of Petersburg on the 9th. Will you please answer the following interrogatories: First. What force did you estimate in your immediate front on outer line? You mentioned three regiments in your report. Second. Where were the other troops for the defense of the outer line, and whose command were they under? Give your sources of information. Third. Do you consider that on that day the interior defenses near the town were strong or weak? Fourth. Where could the enemy have got re-enforcements from, and where did they get them from? Give sources of information. Fifth. Give your estimate of force adequate, if it were practicable, to force the inner line and reach the bridge across the Appomattox on that day. Sixth. Was the resistance you met on approaching

* Report of commanding officer Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry not found.

the inner line strong or weak, and of what character? Seventh. What was the character of the inner line of defenses? Eighth. Was General Kautz with you in front?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

—

IN THE FIELD, NEAR HATCHER'S, VA.,
June 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE:

DEAR SIR: In reply to your communication of this date, I have to state that I led the advance of General Kautz's attack on the left of the fortifications in front of Petersburg on the 9th instant. I estimated the strength of the force on the outer line in my immediate front at about 1,500 infantry and three pieces of artillery. On my right was a force of artillery and infantry whom I was informed by prisoners and intelligent wounded officers and citizens to be commanded by Wise in person. The defenses in the immediate front of the town consisted of a stockade with earth-work in front, very strong, and on my approach about 150 yards a most murderous fire of artillery and infantry was opened upon me. Had the enemy reserved this fire for a few minutes longer the most fearful results to my command would have ensued, and I was compelled to fall back under cover immediately. After falling back about 1 mile I found in a house about 14 wounded soldiers and citizens. I interrogated each separately. They were in different rooms and could not hear the conversation in the adjoining rooms. I found in summing up their statements the following results, viz, that Beauregard had a large force (they could not state the number) between the Appomattox and Swift Creek, and that the town of Petersburg could be and was re-enforced by him. Heard engines whistling often and the rolling of cars. My first impression was that the town could be easily entered, but after falling back (and at about 1.30 p. m.) I concluded that it would take 8,000 or 10,000 men to take and occupy Petersburg. No officer superior in rank to me was with me in leading the attack with the First Battalion. I reached the outer works in front of the town at 11.30 a. m. by the watch.

I am, general, with high respect, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL P. SPEAR,
Colonel Eleventh Pennsylvania Cav., Comdg. Brigade.

I fully concur in the above statement, excepting the number of guns and men specified as being in the outer line of works. I was not in a position to state how many of either were located there.

GERARD REYNOLDS,
Captain, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry.

The above statement of Colonel Spear I fully concur in. The facts stated occurred under my personal observations. I saw, however, but two guns in the outer works, although it is possible there were others there.

WILLIAM BAILEY,
Captain, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry.

From personal observation I concur in the above statement of Colonel Spear. I could not say exactly how many guns were in the

outer works. I saw, however, two, but in the inner line of works there was at least a whole battery. I saw four guns at least, all of which opened on us with a terrific fire and compelled us to fall back and seek a shelter.

JOHN G. SAMPLE,
Second Lieutenant, Comdg. Co. D, 11th Penn. Cav.

No. 16.

Report of Lieut. J. Frank Cummings, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,
June 18, 1864.

The following are extracts from my memoranda book of the operations of the Second Cavalry Brigade, on the 9th instant (the time stated is correct by the watch):

Reached first line of enemy's intrenchments on Jerusalem and Petersburg plank road about 11.30 a. m. morning of the 9th; carried the works and got inside of them at 1.15 p. m. Wounded officers captured then report the enemy's force on the outer line at that point at one regiment of regular infantry and two of militia, and one piece of artillery. Marched on the city of Petersburg; met with a very heavy fire from both artillery and infantry. The force met at the town came from Beauregard's force, which was lying between Swift Creek and the Appomattox River; this information gained from citizens and wounded officers left on the field. One Mr. Griffith, who was wounded and left on the field, gave the most information. General Wise's force was on our right, and in front of the Prince George and City Point road, where General Gillmore's force was supposed to have gone; could not find out his (Wise's) exact force, but was at least one battery and a brigade of infantry, as we were informed by contrabands, citizens, and captured wounded officers. The next line of defenses consisted of stockades on very high bluffs. The battery that opened on the Second Cavalry Brigade was behind the stockades. The stockade was defended by both infantry and artillery.

J. FRANK CUMMINGS,
Lieut. 5th Pa. Cav., and A. A. A. G., 2d Cav. Brig.

No. 17.

Report of Lieut. Col. Christopher Kleinz, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,
In the Field, near Bermuda Hundred, June 10, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of this regiment, with list of casualties thereto, during the Petersburg expedition of the 9th instant:

The regiment proceeded without interruption to a point about 7 miles distant from Point of Rocks. At this place, and about 10 a. m., the enemy fired upon our right flank from the wood. I immediately ordered the First Battalion to dismount and skirmish the woods, for the purpose of ascertaining the strength and position of the enemy. Captain Ker, with his squadron, skirmished to the left, Captain Gal-

lisath to the right. Captain Ker drove the enemy from the wood on his front and across a ravine, after which the enemy opened fire upon him with howitzers. But 2 shots were fired from the pieces when Captain Gallisath charged upon them and drove them from their positions. He then charged into their camp with 35 men and routed over 100 of the enemy, driving them into their intrenchments, and after a few minutes' engagement drove them a quarter of a mile beyond. The enemy left in their precipitate flight arms, horse equipments, and clothing, all of which were destroyed by my men. The regiment having been ordered to keep closed up with the division, the battalion was called in and the regiment proceeded on the march. No casualties occurred during this engagement. The command arrived about a half mile from the Petersburg fortifications about 11.30 a. m. Shortly after the advance of the division had become engaged, I was ordered to form my command in line of battle on the left of the road and immediately in front of the enemy's works, about a quarter of a mile distant. During the formation, which was done promptly the enemy opened on our right with shell, disabling 3 horses. Our howitzers at the same time opened fire upon the rebels, one of the shells killing 2 and wounding 3 of their men. I was then ordered to move my command forward and charge the enemy's works; the nature of the ground, obstacles in my front, and the general position being such as to render a mounted charge impossible, I moved forward to a depression in the field, where I dismounted Nos. 1, 2, and 3 of my men and charged the breast-works and outer redoubts. The enemy made an obstinate resistance and succeeded in holding their position. I then secured a position I could hold, and there remained, keeping the enemy engaged until they were attacked on the right. Simultaneous with the charge on their right, my men charged the works, driving the enemy from their gun, which was then in position and had done considerable execution among the horses of the dismounted men. After they had been driven from the gun we charged after them and the caisson which they had taken off. This was captured with 3 horses, the driver having been killed. On returning with the caisson in the direction of the gun (which we had captured), for the purpose of bringing it away, we were informed that the First District of Columbia Cavalry had taken it while we were charging after the caisson and carried it off as one of their trophies. The works having been carried, I was ordered to bring my men back and form the regiment, after which I was ordered to countermarch my command and fall in in rear of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry. This was done about 2 p. m., when the command retired. The casualties are as follows: Wounded, 13 enlisted men; missing, 1 officer (Capt. G. D. Hart, K Company. When last seen was about 2 miles from the field of action, returning with the regiment. It is supposed that he dismounted to rest, when the regiment halted, fell asleep, and has been captured on the road); 1 enlisted man.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHRIS. KLEINZ,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Lieut. J. F. CUMMINGS,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Cav. Brig.

P. S.—The caisson and ammunition captured were destroyed by the pioneer corps of the regiment.

No. 18.

Congratulatory orders from Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise, C. S. Army, commanding First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT,
No. 11. } *Dept. of N. C. and S. Virginia, June* 12, 1864.

* * * * * * *

VII. To the troops of my command for the defense of Petersburg, on the south side of the Appomattox, on the 9th instant, I have, with the approval and under the instructions of the commanding general, to offer my grateful acknowledgment for their gallant conduct and my congratulations upon their successful repulse of the enemy. Approaching with nine regiments of infantry and cavalry, and at least four pieces of artillery, they searched our lines from Battery No. 1 to Battery 29, a distance of nearly 6 miles. Hood's and Batte's battalions, the Forty-sixth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, and one company, Captain Woods', Company F, of the Twenty-third South Carolina, with Sturdivant's battery and a few guns in position, and Taliaferro's cavalry kept them at bay and punished them severely until they reached the Jerusalem plank road in front of Battery 29, defended by Major Archer's corps of reserves and second-class militia, and by one piece of Sturdivant's battery, a howitzer, under the temporary command of Brigadier-General Colston. Thus, with overwhelming numbers, they were twice repulsed, and succeeded only at last in penetrating a gap in the lines and in flanking a mere handful of citizen soldiers, who stood firmly and fought bravely as veterans, until ordered to fall back. Alas, some of the noblest of them fell with their backs to the ground and their front to the foe, consecrating with their blood the soil of the homes they defended. Their immediate commanders have reported the heroism of them all—the living and the dead—and now with pride and gratitude I announce that Beauregard himself has thanked Archer and his comrades on the very spot of their devotion. If they lost killed, wounded, and missing 65 out of less than 150 men, they spent their blood dearly to the enemy. If Sturdivant's battery lost one gun, a better was captured and another disabled; and if they lost a half mile of ground they gained an half hour of time and saved their beloved city by holding on long enough for Sturdivant's and Graham's and Young's batteries, Dearing's cavalry, and the Forty-sixth Virginia Infantry, with Woods' (South Carolina) company, a company of convalescents and a company of penitents, to drive back the insolent foe from approaches which their footsteps for the first time polluted. With the help of God it shall be the last time. With such troops as all have proven themselves, commanders may well give assurance with confidence to the people of Petersburg. A people who can thus fight for their altars must be aided, supported, guarded by every arm which can be outstretched for their defense. Comrades, their wives and daughters, are daily and hourly nursing our sick and wounded; they wipe the hot brow, cool the fevered lips, and tenderly nourish and comfort the suffering soldiers in their hospitals. The angel nurses and the stricken patients of this patriotic place shall not fall into the hands of ruffian invaders. Its very militia has set an example which

inspires the confidence that Petersburg is indomitable, and which consoles and compensates for every drop of blood which has been spilt at Nottoway, at Walthall Junction, and at Drewry's Bluff and Howlett's Neck for the defense of the Old Cockade City. Let the reserves and second-class militia of the surrounding counties now come in promptly, one and all, and emulate this bright and successful example: let it hotly hiss to blood-red shame the laggards and skulkers from the streets and alleys of the city to the lines, and let it proclaim aloud that Petersburg is to be and shall be defended on her outer walls, on her inner lines, at her corporation bounds, on every street, and around every temple of God and altar of man, in her every heart, until the blood of that heart is spilt. Roused by this spirit to this pitch of resolution, we will fight the enemy at every step, and Petersburg is safe.

HENRY A. WISE,
Brigadier-General.

No. 19.

Report of Brig. Gen. Raleigh E. Colston, C. S. Army.

PETERSBURG, *June* 10, 1864.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the affair of yesterday:

I reported for orders to General Wise about 9.30 a. m. and he ordered me to take position at Lunette No. 16, and hold that position. I repaired to that point and remained there until 11 a. m. At that time a courier reported to me that the enemy were advancing upon the Jerusalem road, and threatening Major Archer's position. I started immediately to that point, leaving orders to my aide-de-camp, Tosh, to remain at Lunette No. 16, to receive any orders that might come. Before I reached Major Archer's position at Lunettes Nos. 27 and 28, I heard the firing of musketry at Archer's position. I immediately ordered a 12-pounder howitzer to repair to Lunettes 27 and 28, at the intersection of the Jerusalem road and the intrenchments. When I reached that point I found that Major Archer's front had repelled a charge of cavalry of the enemy on the Jerusalem road. Shortly afterward the enemy advanced again and formed a line of dismounted cavalry in front of Lunette 27, keeping also a line of mounted men back of Gregory's house. They advanced toward our intrenchments and began deploying to the right. About that time the 12-pounder howitzer came up and I placed it in position, but, to my extreme mortification, found that we had not a single round of canister. Just when the enemy were within easy canister range I ordered to open fire upon the enemy with shell, which was done with some execution. The enemy soon began replying with four pieces of artillery. The militia under Major Archer stood their ground with great steadiness. The enemy then began to spread out on our right and left. I directed Major Archer to spread his men out toward the right or front, if possible, to check the enemy, but at the same time they began deploying and extending on our left. Their total force in view was at least 1,000 men. Our entire force—composed altogether of militia, only about 170 men—less than 150.

On our left was a gap of 1 mile between us and the next support; on our right were no supports at all for a distance of 4 miles to the river. The militia and the howitzer remained at their posts with great gallantry in spite of the galling fire of the enemy, who were completely protected by Mr. Gregory's dwelling-house and outbuildings and fence, and the exceedingly defective location and construction of our breast-works, which permitted the enemy to come up within 50 yards completely sheltered and unseen. For two hours the militia under Major Archer maintained their position against overwhelming odds, until being flanked on the right and left and the enemy occupying Lunette No. 26 in their rear, it became impossible to hold the position any longer, and the order to retreat was given. The militia then retreated to the city and took position on the heights at the top of Sycamore street and by the water-works.

I wish to bear full and explicit testimony to the steadiness and gallantry of the citizen soldiers who composed Major Archer's command. They stood to the breast-works like veterans and did not fall back until ordered to do so, when they were surrounded on three sides, and almost entirely cut off. Knowing how important it was to hold the position to the last minute, and expecting re-enforcement every moment, I delayed giving the order to retreat until it was evident that a minute or two longer would have rendered inevitable the capture or death of every man in the breast-works. The salvation of the city of Petersburg is undoubtedly due in the first place to the brave militia of the city; for, had they retreated five or ten minutes sooner, the artillery, which was the first to check the enemy's advance, instead of meeting them at the heights, on the south side of the city, would have been intercepted before they could cross the bridge, and the city would probably have remained in the enemy's hands. Major Archer's personal conduct was worthy of all praise, as was that of his command, whose severe losses will bear full testimony to their gallantry.

I would respectfully suggest that Mr. Gregory's house and outbuildings be burned forthwith. They afforded complete shelter to the enemy, who placed their sharpshooters in them, and in case of another attack, they will cause the loss of many more lives.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. COLSTON,
Brigadier-General.

Captain PEARCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA

HEADQUARTERS FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT,
Petersburg, Va., June 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. E. COLSTON:

GENERAL: Beyond the general expression of thanks to my whole command, contained in Special Orders, No. 11, paragraph 7, June 12 instant, in which it is stated you were in temporary command of the forces on my right, and that you had reported the heroism of the militia, and which expression included you, of course, I deem it your due that I should distinctly express to you, individually, my thanks for the efficient and gallant part you bore in the affair of the 9th. You tendered your services on the field in any duty which I would assign you. They were gratefully accepted, and I placed you in command

on the right. This I did, relying on your experience and skill to guide the militia, assured that you would more than aid Major Archer in supplying their want of discipline, and that their confidence would be increased, as it was, by your presence and example. Your example was everything I could ask; you held the militia as long as regulars and veterans could have been held, and yourself, on foot, assisted in saving the retreat after having seized a musket and fired upon the enemy with your own hand, and after 2 men had been shot from the saddle of your own horse. You did all that was possible with the men and means I had it in my power to place at your disposal.

While Archer and his militia will ever be gratefully remembered, it must not be forgotton that they were led and commanded by you, that you shared their danger to the last and doubtless taught them how to win the glory and gratitude now shed upon their gallantry.

Very truly and faithfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WISE,
Brigadier-General.

CORRESPONDENCE, ORDERS, AND RETURNS RELATING TO OPERATIONS IN SOUTHEASTERN VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA, FROM MAY 1, 1864, TO MAY 19, 1864.*

UNION CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

CULPEPER, VA., *May* 1, 1864—10.30 a. m.
(Received 11.25 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch† giving information derived from rebel lieutenant received. It will not be necessary to send the lieutenant here, as the dispatch is very full. I do not place great reliance on the information, because I do not see how an officer of that rank comes to know so much of future plans, but I will watch.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 1, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Culpeper, Va.:

The Twenty-second New York was not dismounted, as General Burnside represented that they were required for his command. Four hundred and twenty-five cavalry horses were shipped for Culpeper yesterday; 300 or more will be sent forward per day. Messenger just returned from General Banks with dispatches for you, which have been forwarded. He left Grand Ecore on the 21st [April], and represents the condition of affairs more favorable. Admiral Porter sent a verbal message that they were all right. Navy Department closed and I can get no further information about iron-clads to-day. See in New York papers that two more have sailed from that city. Will order Colonel McIntosh as soon

* For Correspondence, &c., from May 20 to June 12, 1864, see Part III.
† See Vol. XXXIII, p. 1022.

as General Augur returns. I have just examined a rebel officer, whose statements, made in Baltimore, were sent to you last night. He evidently believes what he says.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT RICHARDSON, VA., *May* 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. HENRY J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Yours of the 29th ultimo is received.* I will at once make requisition for the sand-bags, as you suggest. I propose to take ten 8-inch siege howitzers. I have the following ordnance and ordnance stores afloat at the present time, and the list is daily increasing: 4½-inch guns—18 guns, 20 carriages, 10 sets implements, 10 platforms, 3,600 rounds; 30-pounder Parrotts—2 guns, 10 carriages, 10 platforms, 2,600 rounds; 10-inch mortars—10 guns, 10 beds, 1,000 shells; 8-inch mortars—20 guns, 8 beds, 2,200 shells; Coehorns—1,900 shells; 1 battery wagon (D); 1 forge (A); 1 large sling cart; with many smaller articles. Every step has been taken to hurry forward the remainder, and it is loaded as fast as received. I have now 7 schooners, about 300 tons each.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army of the Potomac, Va.:

GENERAL: I request that I may be permitted to ride in a spring wagon when I find it necessary. The order in force does not give me that authority. This concession only to continue until my wound is healed. I may not require it, but I should like to have the authority.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 1, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: The following information just received:

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION—11.15 a. m.

The strong flank works directly opposite this station and about 3 miles back from the river have been masked since yesterday morning with pine or cedar brush. All quiet.

TAYLOR,
Signal Officer.

Very respectfully,

HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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*See Vol. XXXIII, p. 1014.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 1, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: The following dispatch has just been received:

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION—6.30 p. m.

The enemy has been engaged to-day masking with brush the battery between Dr. Morton's house and their works on same range of heights between Morton's and Raccoon Fords. All quiet.

TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *May* 1, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

All quiet.

FULLER,
Signal Officer.

BRANDY, *May* 1, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE:

The First Division is in camp just below Ingalls' Station. Some provision should be made to keep up the full supply of rations and forage.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK, *May* 1, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Brigadier-General Griffin directs me to inform you that the troops are all across the river, and the pontoons will be taken up as soon as the wagons are across.

G. M. BARNARD, JR.,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the cavalry now on duty with this command consists of a detachment of the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Capt. C. E. Fellows commanding, numbering 2 officers and 51 enlisted men, assigned as escort and on provost-marshal duty. Of the horses 41 are serviceable and 10 are unserviceable. The arms, equipments, and accouterments are in good condition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General, Commanding Sixth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 1, 1864.

Major BEERS,
Comdg. Battalion Fiftieth New York Vol. Engineers:

MAJOR: The general commanding the corps directs that you move your camp at an early hour to-morrow morning to this side of the river, and that as soon as the brigade of Colonel Upton has crossed, you cause the pontoon bridge to be taken up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. A. WHITTIER,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 1, 1864.
(Received 8.40 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON:

Has Colonel Hartranft been confirmed a brigadier-general? If possible I would like to have it carried through to-morrow.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

CULPEPER, *May* 1, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Do you not think the Twenty-second New York Cavalry would be worth more to you on foot than mounted? Their horses would mount 1,000 veteran cavalrymen now with Meade's army and without horses.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 1, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I am satisfied that horses will be of more use to Meade than to me. I will dismount them as soon as they arrive, but I fear I will be short of cavalry.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
May 1, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The Indiana and Illinois colored troops have just arrived here and are having their organization completed by Major-General Casey. The Washington regiment will move out to-morrow.

By order:

C. W. FOSTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 1, 1864.
(Received 5.45 p. m.)

General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineers:

Please have pontoon train sent down by railroad at once, sufficient to span Rappahannock. I think it takes ten boats. It should be at Rappahannock Station, with the working party necessary to build it, on the morning of the 3d, without fail. Have officer in charge train report to me at this place on his way down.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Washington, D. C., May 1, 1864—7.30 p. m.
(Received 7.55 p. m.)

General A. E. BURNSIDE,
Warrenton Junction:

Your dispatch of to-day just received. Please inform me if you require pontoon trucks with the bridge; otherwise I shall suppose you require only the boats and superstructure of the bridge to be used at Rappahannock Station. If you need trucks and animals from Washington, it may be impossible to get them to you by Tuesday morning. The bridge and trucks only can reach you in due time, if the railroad can take them, which will be seen at once.

H. W. BENHAM.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM:

I do not want the trucks. I simply want the boats, superstructure, and building party.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 1, 1864.

General FERRERO,
Manassas:

Practice your new troops at target, and drill them as much as possible. Be ready to move at five hours' notice.

A. E. BURNSIDE.

MANASSAS, *May* 1, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

No troops have passed this place this morning on foot; some have on cars. We are constantly drilling. Please send me at least one brigade commander. Will inform you when troops pass here.

E. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General.

MANASSAS, *May* 1, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: The Twenty-Second New York Cavalry, mounted, will be here about 4 o'clock, and the Second [Ohio] and Twenty-fourth [New York], dismounted, will be here during the night.

Very respectfully,

E. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General.

MANASSAS, *May* 1, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The Twenty-Second New York Mounted Regiment has just arrived here, and will remain for the night. I will furnish them with forage. The Twenty-third U. S. Colored Regiment has just joined my division, consisting of eight companies. They came by rail; one company not arrived; Twenty-fourth New York and Second Ohio will camp here to-night.

E. FERRERO.

BRISTOE, *May* 1, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Durell's battery and the Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery passed this place this morning about 8 o'clock.

S. G. GRIFFIN,
Colonel, Commanding.

ALEXANDRIA, *May* 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

The Fifty-eighth and the Fifty-ninth Regiments of Massachusetts Volunteers are here, and will leave to-morrow, and Buckley's Rhode Island battery also.

Z. R. BLISS,
Colonel, Commanding.

CULPEPER, VA., *May* 1, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

By direction of Lieutenant-General Grant, the following telegram* is forwarded to you, and he directs that if you can furnish a regiment in exchange to Burnside without breaking up a brigade you will please do so.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 1, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Sheridan, who will comply with the above instructions of Lieutenant-General Grant if practica-

*See Burnside to Grant, May 1, p. 322.

ble, when the horses referred to (supposed to be those of the Twenty-second New York or Third New Jersey Cavalry) are turned over to him.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

If General Sheridan has returned please say to him that the major-general commanding wishes to see him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 1, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

Please send some order at once in the case of the horses of the First Ohio Cavalry. Nearly every officer in this division is riding public horses. To require them to be turned in would interfere with a move. Cannot some order be obtained requiring the horses to be valued and the amount to be stopped on pay accounts? Have you heard anything of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and is the balance of the regiment to join me?

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 1, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff:

The squadron of First Ohio Cavalry ordered from my division to the Department of the Cumberland owned their horses. Please have an order made at once directing the quartermaster's department to purchase them at prices after due inspection.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILSON,
Commanding Third Cavalry Division:

I have just got back from home. Will get the order for purchase of horses to-morrow. I also expect to furnish you with about 355 additional horses.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 1, 1864.

Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff:

Telegram just received. All officers and men of other commands on duty in this division, except such as were authorized to be retained by proper authority, have been ordered to their regiments. If they have not reported, they are loafing somewhere in the vicinity. Am I to understand by your order that my ordnance officer and commissary of musters, and the clerks you authorized my quartermaster to retain, are to be sent back? If so, please direct all officers and men of my division serving in similar capacities elsewhere to be returned to me.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
May 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILSON,
Commanding Third Cavalry Division:

You can retain the 2 officers, namely, commissary of musters and ordnance officer. General Torbert claims that you have about 100 men of his command. General Torbert was here yesterday, and states that although these men have been ordered back to their regiments, that they have not reported. For this reason yesterday's dispatch was sent.

J. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA., *May* 1, 1864—10 a. m.
(Received 11.30 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Fortress Monroe, Va.:

Have any more iron-clads reached you? Has General Gillmore arrived?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FORT MONROE, *May* 1, 1864.
(Received 12.15 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

One iron-clad arrived; two more now due. Four gun-boats due besides. General Gillmore not yet arrived.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CULPEPER, VA., *May* 1, 1864—5.10 p. m.
(Received 6.10 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER,
Fort Monroe, Va.:

Have you received letter* from me giving date for commencing operations? If General Gillmore arrives by morning of the 3d, those directions will be followed. Answer.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FORT MONROE, *May* 1, 1864.

General SMITH:

Don't send the batteries to Newport News until you hear further, except the 20-pounder Parrott. Let it come to Fort Monroe.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, *May* 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH:

The First and Second U. S. Colored Cavalry have been ordered to report to you. Col. R. M. West, First Pennsylvania Artillery, is assigned to the immediate command of the regiments.

HENRY T. SCHROEDER,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. TROOPS AT YORKTOWN
AND GLOUCESTER POINT,
Yorktown, Va., May 1, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Fort Monroe:

The following is from Col. G. V. Henry, commanding brigade, Tenth Corps, at West Point, this morning:

> My command landed at 10 a. m. to-day. The inhabitants say we have been expected for two or three weeks. The impression is that 40,000 or 50,000 are to march toward White House. Am building a good dock with material I have brought, and desire to keep up this impression. If not contrary to your views, would like to keep up the impression.
>
> G. V. HENRY,
> *Colonel Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers.*

I have sent word to Colonel Henry that as soon as he feels his position secure he can make the reconnaissance, but not to go too far.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

POINT LOOKOUT, *May* 1, 1864—10.05 p. m.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fort Monroe:

MAJOR: I have information from the Potomac flotilla that a considerable force of rebel cavalry, supposed to be Fitzhugh Lee's,

* See Vol. XXXIII, p. 1009.

crossed the Rappahannock at Port Royal day before yesterday, and that some of their officers have crossed into Maryland in citizens' dress. I have sent cavalry in search.

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 1, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
A. A. G., Hdqs. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:

MAJOR: Colonel McChesney, of the First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers, who was left to bring up the rear at Little Washington, has arrived here this morning. He reports that everything has been safely brought away. A deserter from the rebel forces has come in this morning giving the information that General Beauregard is at Kinston; that he is assembling five brigades there for the attack on New Berne. This may be so or not; as I informed you in my letter of yesterday, we ought to hope that Beauregard's forces would be diverted from Virginia for the purpose of attacking us. I may be wrong in my estimate of our abilities, but I think we can make a successful resistance. If the contrabands and the Carolinians will only make up their mind that this is no time for *sauve qui peut*, and if they will do well it will be all right. The order for the gunboat Brewster to proceed to Fort Monroe has just been received, and she will start to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, *May 2, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Culpeper:

GENERAL: I believe all the directions in your confidential dispatch of the 29th ultimo* have been carried out, so far as possible. It is a difficult matter to get troops out of the hands of some of the Governors of States, but we are making considerable progress. The Assistant Secretary of War, Mr. Dana, has gone West with full powers to start them off, forcibly, if necessary. The fine cavalry regiments so long detained in Indiana have started for Louisville, just as they are, half mounted and half on foot. We can regulate them when we get them away from the State authorities. The Governor of Massachusetts opposes the dismounting of his half-mounted colored regiment and we cannot get their horses. I have to-day ordered the men with their horses here, where we can dismount them in spite of the Governor and send their horses to General Meade. Don't rely too much on any immediate assistance from the proposed western militia force. It will take some time to raise them and get them into position, even under the strongest pressure. As fast as I can get militia regiments, I will hurry to the front the present guards at Johnson's Island, &c. A regiment from Ohio has been ordered to relieve Sigel's troops, which are guarding the depot at Gallipolis.

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*See Grant to Halleck, April 29, 1864, Vol. XXXIII, p. 1017.

In your calculations take into account the fact that all the water transportation we can get is absorbed by General Butler, and by rations put afloat. In case troops are to be sent to General Butler, most of the transports must come from him. The North has been completely stripped. General Canby has been assisting me in getting recruits, furloughed men, and troops out of the Northern States. He has been sick, and his duties in the War Department have nearly broken him down. He says his business is greatly behind in the office. Wherever you and the Secretary of War think I can be of most service I am ready to go. I am willing to serve anywhere and everywhere. Just at the present crisis it might not be well to derange the machinery here. There must be some military head here to keep things from getting into a snarl. There must be some common head to make the different bureaus act in concert and with promptness. It is impossible for the Secretary of War or his assistants to attend personally to these matters.

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, *May* 2, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Culpeper, Va.:

Navy Department reports five iron-clads now in Hampton Roads, viz. the Roanoke, Atlanta, Onondaga, Tecumseh, and Saugus. Another, the Canonicus, passed Sandy Hook at 10 a. m. May 1, and will be at Hampton Roads on the evening of the 3d. Forage and provision rations will be ready in time, as directed.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 2, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Culpeper, Va.:

Have you given any orders direct to General Burnside to dismount the Twenty-second New York Cavalry? There seems to be some misunderstanding.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CULPEPER, VA., *May* 2, 1864—10.30 p. m.
(Received 11.55.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The Twenty-second New York Cavalry were dismounted at my suggestion, that the horses were worth more to mounted veteran cavalry, who have no horses, than men and horses together are. A new regiment will be worth something on foot, but less than their forage on horseback. I did not give a peremptory order for dismounting the regiment however.

U. S. GRANT.
Lieutenant-General.

MAY 2, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Brigadier-General Rowley has been tried by court-martial and is now awaiting the promulgation of proceedings, the record having been transmitted to Washington. He is without command and desires to go to Harrisburg, Pa., to await further action. I would be glad if an order to that effect can be issued or authority to that effect given me.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CULPEPER, *May* 2, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

You are hereby authorized to make the necessary orders for Brigadier-General Rowley.*

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
Washington, D. C., May 2, 1864. (Received 4.40 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

There are some detachments of cavalry belonging to your army here mounted but not fully equipped; shall they be sent as they are or wait until fully equipped?

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General.

MAY 2, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General AUGUR:

We will take all mounted men as they are, and would like to have them sent out on the cars to-morrow, if possible.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
May 2, 1864.

Capt. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

CAPTAIN: I was at Raccoon and Somerville Fords this a. m.; found the enemy still fortifying at the former; saw no change in camps in those vicinities and no unusual stir. Nearly all the fortifications between Morton's and Somerville Fords have been masked with brush. A new camp has appeared to-day behind Raccoon Ford, about 1 mile from the river. A party of 20 have been throwing up a small work this p. m. near Dr. Morton's house. No further movements observed, up to the time the storm set in. The rebel signal station established at Gibson's house, directly opposite us, is for the purpose, I judge, of deceiving us; they make wild and un-

*Ordered by Special Orders, No. 133, Army of the Potomac, May 2, 1864, to proceed to Harrisburg.

meaning motions with their flags, while at the same time they appear to be watching our station with their glasses. The following message and part of message was taken by me from Clark's Mountain this p. m. Parties standing in front of their flag on the mountain top prevented my getting the whole of the last:

To STATION C.

Is General Ewell at his headquarters? If not please let us know.

STATION J.

Hoke's brigade 11111, 22222, —— —— Dt. Ga. —— —— 11114, 222 31, N. C. regts ordered here —— ——.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain Signal Corps.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 23. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *May* 2, 1864.

The commanding general having learned that, notwithstanding the caution contained in General Orders, No. 32, of April 25, 1864, from these headquarters,* there are men in this army who refuse to do duty on the ground that their term of service has expired, it will be made known to such men that their conduct, being open mutiny, will be punished with death without trial unless they promptly return to duty; and, hereafter, any soldier who refuses to do duty on a similar plea will instantly be shot without any form of trial whatever. The honor of the service, and the necessities of the hour, admit of no other disposition of such cases. The commanding general again expresses the hope that the soldiers of this army will respectfully ask for and cheerfully abide by the decision of the War Department with respect to their term of service, but he has no further word of warning for those who, at a time like the present, choose to defy lawful authority. Corps and other independent commanders are charged with the execution of this order.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *May* 2, 1864.

1. The army will move on Wednesday, the 4th of May, 1864.

2. On the day previous, Tuesday, the 3d of May, Major-General Sheridan, commanding Cavalry Corps, will move Gregg's cavalry division to the vicinity of Richardsville. It will be accompanied by one-half the canvas pontoon train, the engineer troops with which will repair the road to Ely's Ford as far as practicable without exposing their work to the observation of the enemy. Guards will be placed on all the occupied houses on or in the vicinity of the route of the cavalry and in advance toward the Rapidan, so as to prevent any communication with the enemy by the inhabitants. The same precaution will be taken at the same time in front of the First and Third Cavalry Divisions, and wherever it may be considered necessary. At 2 a. m. of the 4th May, Gregg's division will move to

*See Vol. XXXIII, p. 970.

Ely's Ford, cross the Rapidan as soon as the canvas pontoon bridge is laid, if the river is not fordable, and as soon as the infantry of the Second Corps is up, will move to the vicinity of Piney Branch Church, or in that section, throwing reconnaissances well out on the Pamunkey road, toward Spotsylvania Court-House, Hamilton's Crossing, and Fredericksburg. The roads past Piney Branch Church, Todd's Tavern, &c., will be kept clear for the passage of the infantry the following day. The cavalry division will remain in this position to cover the passage of the army trains, and will move with them and cover their left flank. At midnight of the 3d of May, the Third Cavalry Division, with one-half the canvas pontoon bridge train, which will join it after dark, will move to Germanna Ford, taking the plank road, and cross the Rapidan as soon as the bridge is laid, if the river is not fordable, and hold the crossing until the infantry of the Fifth Corps is up. It will then move to Parker's Store, on the Orange Court-House plank road, or that vicinity, sending out strong reconnaissances on the Orange pike and plank roads and the Catharpin and Pamunkey roads, until they feel the enemy, and at least as far as Robertson's Tavern, the New Hope Church, and Almond's or Robertson's. All intelligence concerning the enemy will be communicated with promptitude to headquarters and to the corps and division commanders of the nearest infantry troops.

3. Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps, will send two divisions at midnight of the 3d instant, by way of Stevensburg and the plank road, to the crossing at Germanna Ford. So much of the bridge train of the Fifth Corps as may be necessary to bridge the Rapidan at Germanna Ford, with such artillery as may be required, will accompany these divisions, which will be followed by the remainder of the corps at such hour that the column will cross the Rapidan without delay. Such disposition of the troops and artillery as may be found necessary to cover the bridge will be made by the corps commander, who, after crossing, will move to the vicinity of the Old Wilderness Tavern, on the Orange Court-House pike. The corps will move the following day past the head of Catharpin Run, crossing the Orange Court-House plank road at Parker's Store.

4. Major-General Sedgwick, commanding Sixth Corps, will move at 4 a. m. of the 4th instant, by way of Stevensburg and the Germanna plank road to Germanna Ford, following the Fifth Corps, and, after crossing the Rapidan, will bivouac on the heights beyond. The canvas pontoon train will be taken up as soon as the troops of the Sixth Corps have crossed, and will follow immediately in rear of the troops of that corps. So much of the bridge train of the Sixth Corps as may be necessary to bridge the Rapidan at Culpeper Mine Ford will proceed to Richardsville in rear of the Reserve Artillery, and, as soon as it is ascertained that the Reserve Artillery are crossing, it will move to Culpeper Mine Ford, where the bridge will be established. The engineers of this bridge train will at once open a road from Culpeper Mine Ford direct to Richardsville.

5. Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps, will send two divisions, with so much of the bridge train as may be necessary to bridge the Rapidan at Ely's Ford, and such artillery as may be required, at midnight of the 3d instant to Ely's Ford. The remainder of the corps will follow at such hour that the column will cross the Rapidan without delay. The canvas pontoon bridge at this ford

will be taken up as soon as the troops of this corps have passed, and will move with it at the head of the trains that accompany the troops. The wooden pontoon bridge will remain. The Second Corps will enter the Stevensburg and Richardsville road at Madden's, in order that the route from Stevensburg to the plank road may be free for the Fifth and Sixth Corps. After crossing the Rapidan, the Second Corps will move to the vicinity of Chandler's or Chancellorsville.

6. It is expected that the advanced divisions of the Fifth and Second Corps, with the wooden pontoon trains, will be at the designated points of crossing not later than 6 a. m. of the 4th instant.

7. The Reserve Artillery will move at 3 a. m. of the 4th instant, and follow the Second Corps, passing Mountain Run at Ross' Mill or Hamilton's, cross at Ely's Ford, take the road to Chancellorsville, and halt for the night at Hunting Creek.

8. Great care will be taken by the corps commanders that the roads are promptly repaired by the pioneers wherever needed, not only for the temporary wants of the division or corps to which the pioneers belong, but for the passage of the troops and trains that follow on the same route.

9. During the movement of the 4th and following days the commanders of the Fifth and Sixth Corps will occupy the roads on the right flank, to cover the passage of their corps, and will keep their flankers well out in that direction. The commanders of the Second Corps and Reserve Artillery will, in a similar manner, look out for the left flank. Whenever practicable, double columns will be used to shorten the columns. Corps commanders will keep in communication and connect with each other, and co-operate whenever necessary. Their picket-lines will be connected. They will keep the commanding general constantly advised of their progress and of everything important that occurs, and will send staff officers to acquaint him with the location of their headquarters. During the movement of the 4th instant headquarters will be on the route of the Fifth and Sixth Corps. It will be established at night between these corps on the Germanna plank road.

10. The infantry troops will take with them 50 rounds of ammunition upon the person, three days' full rations in the haversacks, three days' bread and small rations in the knapsacks, and three days' beef on the hoof. Each corps will take with it one-half its infantry ammunition, one-half the intrenching tools, one hospital wagon and one medicine wagon for each brigade, one-half the ambulance trains, and the light spring wagons and pack animals allowed at the various headquarters. No other train or means of transportation than those just specified will accompany the corps, except such wagons as may be necessary for the forage for immediate use (five days). The artillery will have with them the ammunition of the caissons only.

11. The subsistence and other trains, loaded with the amount of rations, forage, infantry and artillery ammunition, &c., heretofore ordered, the surplus wooden pontoons of the different corps, &c., will be assembled under the direction of the chief quartermaster of the army in the vicinity of Richardsville, with a view to crossing the Rapidan by bridges at Ely's Ford and Culpeper Mine Ford.

12. A detail of 1,000 or 1,200 men will be made from each corps as guard for its subsistence and other trains. This detail will be composed of entire regiments as far as practicable. No other guards whatever for regimental, brigade, division, or corps wagons will be allowed. Each detail will be under the command of an officer selected

for that purpose, and the whole will be commanded by the senior officer of the three. This guard will be so disposed as to protect the trains on the march and in park. The trains are likewise protected by cavalry on the flanks and rear.

13. Major-General Sheridan, commanding Cavalry Corps, will direct the First Cavalry Division to call in its pickets and patrols on the right on the morning of the 4th instant, and hold itself ready to move and cover the trains of the army. It will picket and watch the fords of the Rapidan from Rapidan Station to Germanna Ford. On the morning of the 5th the First Cavalry Division will cross the Rapidan at Germanna Ford and cover the right flank of the trains while crossing the Rapidan and during their movements in rear of the army. The signal stations on Cedar, Pony, and Stony Mountains will be maintained as long as practicable.

14. The wooden pontoon bridges at Germanna Ford and Ely's Ford will remain for the passage of General Burnside's army. That at Culpeper Mine Ford will be taken up, under the direction of the chief engineer, as soon as the trains have crossed, and will move with the train of its corps.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864.

Hereafter the designating flag for these headquarters will be a magenta-colored swallow-tailed flag, with an eagle in gold, surrounded by a silver wreath for an emblem.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have received your note, and having since seen your inspector-general, have given him what you ask. Should anything occur of the kind you suggest up to the moment of departure we will let you know. We expect to be able to send you two good men as guides. One of them may have to ride in an ambulance, having lost part of one of his feet while lying within the enemy's lines during the late snow-storm. I have the letter, and will see that it gets through.

With respect and esteem, general, yours,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel.

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
May 2, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

Indications of a move this morning by the enemy. Heavy column of infantry is now moving toward our left, on road near heavy flank

works, reported yesterday 3 miles from this point; no ambulances or wagons observed with them. Camps on the river line remain unchanged. The work, containing four heavy pieces, on heights behind Dr. Morton's house, is being strengthened this a. m. A party of artillery are engaged in constructing new works near bend of river, one-half mile above Morton's Ford.*

HOLLAND,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
May 2, 1864.

Lieutenant HOLLAND,
Signal Officer, Stony Mountain:

What number of infantry do you estimate in the column just reported moving to our left?

By order:

WM. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant.

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
May 2, 1864.

Lieutenant STRYKER,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Signal Dept., Army of the Potomac:

The enemy on the move occupied about an hour's time passing this point; well closed up; a division at least.

HOLLAND,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

MAY 2, 1864—1 p. m.
(Received 1.20 p. m.)

General HANCOCK:

Four wagons have just passed toward our left, opposite Stringfellow's Ford, and disappeared in woods. Don't know whether they were preceded by others or not.

ISRAEL THICKSTUN,
Captain.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General GIBBON,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires you to send to him at once a statement of the affair which occurred in the Eighth Ohio Volunteers yesterday, where certain men declined to do duty.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

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*Transmitted to General Meade 1 p. m. May 2.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 2, 1864.

A disturbance took place yesterday morning in the Eighth Ohio Volunteers. Measures were at once taken by Colonel Carroll to suppress it, and 12 of the ring-leaders were placed in irons. Every man has now returned to duty; a more healthy state of feeling exists, and no further trouble is anticipated. In case of such, however, I have directed that any man refusing to do duty will be shot on the spot.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 2, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac.

W. S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the commanding officer of the Second Corps.

Any man refusing to do duty will be shot on the spot, being in open mutiny.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A general order will be issued on this subject to-day.*

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., SECOND CORPS,
No. 25. } *May* 2, 1864.

In compliance with orders from superior headquarters, I relinquish the command of this division. In doing so I take the occasion to express my gratification that I am to be succeeded by an old and tried soldier, Brig. Gen. Gershom Mott. My connection with this division for the past two years has been of the most pleasing character, the recollection of which time can never obliterate. I leave you with the very best wishes for your success and prosperity, believing that under command of Generals Meade, Hancock, and Mott, you will retain the world-wide reputation you have so nobly won on many hard-fought battle-fields.

JOS. B. CARR,
Brigadier-General.

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*See General Orders, No. 23, Army of the Potomac, May 2, p. 331.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE.
No. 165. } *Washington, May 2, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

9. Company H, First Battalion, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, now at the regimental depot, Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, will at once be put en route to join that regiment, now with the Fifth Corps, Army of the Potomac. Maj. D. Woodruff, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, superintendent regimental recruiting service, will assign to this company such officers as can be spared from the recruiting service. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *May 2, 1864.*

General WARREN:

Enemy busy working on rifle-pits. No change in camps. All quiet.

FULLER.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES
Culpeper Court-House, Va., May 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The movement of this army will commence at 12 o'clock to-morrow night. The attempt will be made to turn the right flank of the enemy—that is, to cross the Rapidan east of or below the railroad. Ely's Ford, Germanna Ford, and Culpeper Mine Ford will be the crossing places. At Ely's Ford and Germanna pontoon trains will be left for your use. You will send a suitable guard to take charge of these bridges and crossings by the morning of the 5th. So soon as the crossing of Meade's army is perfectly assured I will notify you of the fact, by telegraph, which will be the signal for you to start. Make all your preparations on the 4th instant to move at a moment's notice. Select your own route, or routes, to the Rapidan. When you reach there if Meade's trains should be in your way do not interfere with them, following his army, unless you should receive notice to push forward with your troops. In that case you will stop his trains until your troops are over and a sufficient number of ammunition wagons and ambulances to enable you to go into battle with a supply. In the absence of any further directions your line of march after crossing the Rapidan will be in rear of the right flank of the Army of the Potomac. Being in the rear you will require very heavy guards with your train. My headquarters until further notice will as a rule be near the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac. On the night of the 4th this will be on the road to Germanna Ford and not far from the river. Furnish me a copy of your order of march as soon as you can.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 2, 1864.
(Received 2.45 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I understood from you that troops from the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps were to relieve the Second Pennsylvania Artillery at Alexandria. If this is correct when shall I expect them to join the corps?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 2, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Warrenton Junction, Va.:

By General Grant's orders the Second Pennsylvania Artillery replaced General Meade's train guards, under General Briggs. We have nothing at present to relieve them, but hope to do so soon. Will let you know. Advise me of any change in your position.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

POINT LOOKOUT, *May* 2, 1864—noon.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Captain Hooker, Potomac Flotilla, sends word that the force which crossed the Rappahannock is very heavy; composed of many thousand men, principally cavalry. Probably intended as a flank movement against General Grant.

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel, Commanding District.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The Point Lookout dispatch not reliable. Scouts in this morning who crossed below United States Ford had heard nothing and seen nothing to confirm it. I have told Sheridan to send a scouting party in that direction.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 2, 1864.

General MEADE:

The following dispatch just received from General Benham:

WASHINGTON, *May* 2, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

The bridge is loaded on the cars to leave between 12 and 1 p. m. Captain Slosson, Fifteenth New York Volunteers, directed to report to you with a suggestion which, if approved by you, will expedite and save labor, and as it appears to be as well for both

corps it is for Captain Slosson to turn over this bridge to Captain McDonald for the Fifth Corps and retain your bridge now down under a selected guard of pontoniers detailed by Captain Slosson from his command.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

Would it not be well to leave the bridge that is now down until this one arrives?

A. E. BURNSIDE.
Major-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 2, 1864—9.15 p. m.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL NINTH ARMY CORPS:

The pontoon bridge from the engineer depot, Washington, D. C., is here. The conductor of the train has orders to proceed without delay to Rappahannock. The boats will be unloaded and laid by morning. If the bridge is not to be laid in the same place telegraph to Rappahannock.

I remain, your obedient servant,

H. V. SLOSSON.
Captain, Fifteenth New York Veteran Engineers.

MAY 2, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The Fifth Corps bridge was taken up yesterday. When you have done with the bridge now being furnished, you will please return it to General Benham by the railroad.

GEO. G. MEADE.
Major-General.

WEST CHESTER, *May* 2, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Am much better; will leave on the 4th. Where shall I join you?

JNO. G. PARKE.

RENSSELAER, IND., *May* 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will do me a favor, and one that would be gratefully remembered through life, if you would do me the honor to give me command of a division in your corps, either white or colored. I am no politician. I commenced in this war in April, 1861, as captain, and won my way up to my present rank through meritorious service alone, without any political influence, and it is very mortifying, after being on constant active duty over two years, to be exiled from duty without cause and not permitted to take part in the closing acts of the great rebellion. I appeal to you, general, with a soldier's frankness, and hope that you will with a soldier's generosity

pardon me, a stranger, in thus intruding upon you. I can assure you that if you will do me the honor and the favor to give me a command in your corps you will never have reason to regret it.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

R. H. MILROY,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
May 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Warrenton Junction, Va.:

The Twenty-third Colored Regiment is presumed to be now en route to report to you, as ordered. The others will be sent forward as fast as they can be got ready. Two companies of the Thirty-first will reach Alexandria to-day, under orders to report to you.

By order:

C. W. FOSTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MANASSAS, *May 2*, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The Second Ohio Cavalry have arrived. Shall they continue their march?

E. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May 2*, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division, Ninth Corps:

The general commanding directs that the cavalry form for its march and report here early in the morning.

EDWARD M. NEILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May 2*, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO:

If the cavalry have not started let them camp where they are to-night, and come on early in the morning.

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MANASSAS, *May 2*, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: The cavalry started some time ago.

E. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO:

The general commanding directs that you send a scouting party in the direction of Falmouth. There are reports, but not reliable, of rebels having crossed below Fredericksburg.

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Colonel Griffin.)

BRISTOE, *May* 2, 1864.

Lieut. Col. L. RICHMOND:

The reports named in your telegram have been received here and scouts were sent out yesterday and to-day. Will send out scout to-night in compliance with orders.

S. G. GRIFFIN,
Colonel, Commanding.

BRISTOE, *May* 2, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Since receipt of your telegram Colonel Morrison has reported result of this afternoon scout. They went some 4 miles beyond Brentsville without finding even a guerrilla. Do you desire a scout sent to a greater distance to-morrow? The vedettes have been thrown farther out and strengthened.

S. G. GRIFFIN,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Warrenton Junction, Va., May 2, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: Captain Cloke, Company B, Third New Jersey Cavalry, sent out yesterday a. m. with the Fifty-first Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers to make a reconnaissance in the vicinity of Warrenton, has just returned. He reports that after repeated inquiries made of citizens (both male and female) and contrabands, he can learn of no Confederate force being or having been in that vicinity, but that small squads of guerrillas are in the habit of visiting Warrenton daily. He made a reconnaissance in front and left of the town, but could see nothing of the enemy. I am satisfied that the report made on the 30th ultimo, to the effect that a Confederate force had crossed the Warrenton road, is without foundation. The whole force of cavalry and infantry have returned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864.

General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

Please be at these headquarters to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CONFIDENTIAL.] CAVALRY CORPS,
May 2, 1864.

Generals TORBERT and WILSON,
Comdg. First and Third Divisions, Cavalry Corps:

The major-general desires to know whether your pickets have observed a rebel division of infantry moving down the river below Morton's Ford to-day. It is so reported by the signal officer at Stony Mountain. Answer.

J. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 2, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

Nothing unusual has been reported from my picket-line to-day. Will inquire concerning the movement mentioned in your dispatch and report immediately if anything has been seen.

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. MCM. GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your division as quietly as possible to-morrow morning to Richardsville, or vicinity, and encamp it so as to be as little exposed to the view of the enemy as possible. Your division will be accompanied by one-half of the canvas pontoon train. The engineers connected with it will repair the road to Ely's Ford, attracting the attention of the enemy as little as practicable. The general commanding further directs that you place guards on all the occupied houses on or in the vicinity of the roads passed over by your command, and in advance, toward the Rapidan, so as to prevent any communication with the enemy by the inhabitants. You will draw in all these guards when you move from Richardsville. Call in your detachments at Morrisville and Grove Church; if the river is past fording have the bridge put down to cross the above force very early in the morning at Kel-

ly's Ford, the bridge to be taken up as soon as they have crossed, and to join you quickly at Richardsville. Orders for a further movement will be sent you to-morrow. If possible, take five days' rations of grain for your cavalry horses with you to Richardsville.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. MCM. GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: In case that the river is fordable the general thinks that you can bring in the detachments at Morrisville and Grove Church by Ely's Ford.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. PICKETS FIRST PENNSYLVANIA RESERVE CAV.,
May 2, 1864—10 a. m.

Capt. F. L. TREMAIN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brig., Second Cav. Div.:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the scout to Falmouth has just returned, having left here at 9 o'clock last night, remained at Grove Church till 1 o'clock a. m., reached Falmouth at 5 o'clock. No enemy found on this side. Citizens report that all communications from the opposite side are prohibited. They state that the enemy have been busily engaged in throwing up intrenchments during the past week. They also state that General Young is in command of the enemy's cavalry, and that Longstreet's forces arrived at Fredericksburg on Saturday, where they are encamped. The cavalry camps seen by the first scout are still visible, and the officer in command reports the river strongly picketed by dismounted men; cannot tell whether they are cavalry or infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. TAYLOR,
Colonel, Commanding Pickets.

(Forwarded to headquarters Army of the Potomac.)

HDQRS. FIRST PENNSYLVANIA RESERVE CAVALRY,
May 2, 1864.

Capt. F. L. TREMAIN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brig., Second Cav. Div.:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that reliable information from a citizen has been received that about 5,000 rebel infantry arrived and went into camp near Chancellorsville on Friday last. Also that 100 dismounted men crossed the river on Saturday at

United States Ford. Scouts have been sent out on all the roads in that direction, and as yet no signs of any of them have been discovered on this side of the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. TAYLOR,
Colonel, Commanding Pickets.

(Forwarded to Major-General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
May 2, 1864—12 p. m.

Col. J. I. GREGG,
Comdg. Second Brigade, Second Division Cavalry:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you have your command in readiness to move at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning. Each trooper will carry four days' rations in haversack and two days' forage on horse in rear of saddle.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILSON,
Commanding Third Cavalry Division:

Your officers will have to ride Government horses if they are not already provided with private ones. They must be mounted in case we should move. No news of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry. Colonel McIntosh has been ordered down.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
May 2, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

I have sent one of my aides to reconnoiter between Morton's and Germanna Fords. He reports that at Morton's Ford no evidence can be found of the enemy toward our left, but there is a signal station of the enemy's just opposite of that point. Our signal officer reports from Stony Mountain that the enemy have masked all his batteries with brush. Small parties of the enemy are still at work.

J. H. WILSON.

THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 2, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Cavalry Corps:

The officer whom I sent to the picket-line has returned, having gone all the way to Germanna Ford. He reports no change ob-

served at any point. The enemy's pickets unchanged and no indications of a move on their part could be observed. Will send report from Southard's as soon as it is received.

J. H. WILSON.

THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 2, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

Have reports from Ely's, Skinker's, and Field's Fords on the Rappahannock, and all fords on the Rapidan within my lines. All quiet, and no movement of the enemy.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILSON,
Third Cavalry Division:

We cannot have a review to-morrow. I want to see you in the morning. Come up.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General.

CULPEPER, *May* 2, 1864—4 p. m.
(Received 4.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Fortress Monroe:

What is the late news from General Gillmore? What number of his troops is yet to arrive?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FORTRESS MONROE, *May* 2, 1864—7 p. m.
(Received 11.45 a. m. 3d.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Telegram as to probable time of General Gillmore' arrival already sent. Will be here to-morrow night or Wednesday morning with all his forces. Not more than two regiments and three batteries behind now. Three iron-clads here; one more expected to-morrow. Three more gun-boats to arrive. Washington, N. C., quietly evacuated, bringing away everything. Four regiments received from North Carolina. Shall be ready at time indicated. All quiet on the south bank of James River so far.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CULPEPER, VA., *May* 2, 1864—10.30 p. m.
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER, *Fortress Monroe:*

Start on the date given in my letter.* There will be no delay with this army. Answer, that I may know this is received and understood as regards date.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CULPEPER, *May* 2, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER, *Fortress Monroe, Va.:*

I have ordered Brigadier-General Carr to report to you. He is now commanding a division in this army, but the Senate refusing to confirm him with the date of his appointment will make him junior to the brigade commanders who have been serving under [him]. If it embarrasses you to give him a brigade you need not give it. His reputation as an officer is good.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 19.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES.
In Field, near Culpeper Court-House, Va., May 2, 1864.

* * * * * * *

Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac, and will report in person without delay to Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 2, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER, *Fort Monroe, Va.:*

Not another cavalry horse can be sent to you at present.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, *May* 2, 1864.
(Received 4.15 p. m.)

General GRANT:

The following has just been received from Point Lookout in addition to a dispatch that there was a movement on the Rappahannock sent yesterday:

POINT LOOKOUT, *May* 2—noon.

Captain Hooker, Potomac Flotilla, sends word that the force which crossed the Rappahannock is very large, composed of many thousand men, principally cavalry. Probably intended as a flank movement against General Grant.

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel, &c.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

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*See Vol. XXXIII, p. 1009.

FORT MONROE, *May* 2, 1864—12.30 p. m.
(Received 2.30 p. m.)

'olonel SHARPE:

What information, if any, have you of troops at Hanover Court-House? Deserters from Gilmor's battalion of cavalry left there April 23, and report a large force of cavalry there and some two brigades from Army of Northwest Virginia, with more coming.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864—5 p. m. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

J. I. DAVENPORT,
Fort Monroe:

At date you mention Bradley T. Johnson's command—cavalry, infantry, and artillery, 7000 strong—at Hanover Junction. Since then we had a rumor, not corroborated, that Longstreet sent some men from Charlottesville that way. They may have gone to Hanover Court-House, but I do not think so. It is strange that Gilmor's men should go to you to desert.

G. H. SHARPE,
Colonel and Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1864—5 p. m. (Received 7.10 p. m.)

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Fortress Monroe, Va.:

I have a man, not late from Richmond, who can perhaps explain recent obstructions to the general's correspondence with Richmond, if they still exist. Does the general want the man, and will he be sent right back? Let me know what you consider the condition of things at Richmond, and what you know about any troops passing through Richmond this way for the past ten days.

G. H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Fort Monroe, May 2, 1864.

Capt. HENRI MARIVAULT,
Comdg. His Imperial Majesty's Ship Tisiphone:

CAPTAIN: I see by the Richmond papers that some officer or officers of the French ships, while at City Point, left their vessels and went to Richmond, and remained there some days, and that the delay occasioned in coming down was waiting for the return of that officer or those officers. May I inquire without offense whether that newspaper statement is true, and, if true, under what article of the convention in regard to the shipment of the tobacco, or under what authority these officers visited Richmond?

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 55. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *Fort Monroe, Va., May 2, 1864.*

I. Maj. Gen. William F. Smith is hereby assigned to the command of the Eighteenth Army Corps, and will report directly to these headquarters.

II. Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry is hereby assigned to the command of the Tenth Army Corps, awaiting the arrival of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore, and will report directly to these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *May 2, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH,
Commanding, &c.:

General Weitzel will report to you on Wednesday morning. Have intelligence from Gillmore. He will be here to-morrow.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

YORKTOWN, VA., *May 2, 1864.*

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Fort Monroe:

Aggregate for duty, not including artillery, at Fort Magruder and this post: Hinks, 5,715; Brooks, 5,866; Wistar, 5,052; Terry, 15,706; say mounted rifles, 400; say two regiments which reported last night, 840. Total, 33,579.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *May 2, 1864.*

General SMITH:

The artillery and cavalry will be embarked at Newport News. They must be there ready to embark at daylight Wednesday morning.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. TROOPS,
Yorktown, Va., May 2, 1864.

General WISTAR,
Williamsburg:

The light batteries and all the cavalry of this command must be ready to embark at Newport News on Wednesday at daybreak. Please send word to Colonel West immediately.

By command of Major-General Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Operator will send copy of this to Colonel West.

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
May 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General BROOKS,
Commanding First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that all the artillery of your command be at Newport News ready to embark at daylight on Wednesday.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
West Point, Va., May 2, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FLOYD,
Commanding Third New York Volunteers:

COLONEL: The colonel commanding directs that you will march your command to the front 8 or 10 miles upon the main road, collecting all the information of the enemy possible. You will go in light marching order with one day's rations in haversacks, and use the utmost caution, scouring the country thoroughly. In case of an attack you will send immediately to these headquarters, reporting as near as possible the force in your front, and fall back slowly until you join the main body of troops. You will return to camp to-night, and upon your arrival report in person to the colonel commanding.

Very respectfully, yours,

F. W. WEAVER,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GETTY'S LINE, *May 2, 1864.*

Colonel SHAFFER:

Captain Hart had a picket force in his front last evening at Bernard's Mill. He now reports the enemy has retired, and he learns from various sources that it consisted of a regiment of infantry, Fifty-first North Carolina, one regiment of cavalry 600 strong, and a six-gun battery of artillery, commanded by General Clingman. They came from Pickett's division, on the Blackwater, for the purpose of learning the truth of a report that we had evacuated Norfolk and Portsmouth. Mrs. Lenahan and four children from Chowan County, N. C., are at the outpost and want to go to Indiana to her friends; is a widow in destitute circumstances, and will take the oath. Shall I admit her?

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 2, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
A. A. G., Hdqrs. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fortress Monroe:

MAJOR: With regard to keeping open our communication by way of the canal I think there is no good reason why we should give it up yet. Even if the ram is in the sounds our boats ought to be able to run away from it. The fact of her having sunk the South-

field ought not to make her such a bugbear to us. Captain Smith, commanding the naval forces in the sounds, left here this morning in the Mattabesett to look after matters in the Albemarle Sound, and I hope he will prevent the ram from molesting us in any way. Captain Smith told me that if he could only get the ram into the sounds the smaller gun-boats here could sink her. He has large powerful vessels with him. One Flusser now would be worth, I estimate, about 1,000 such people as permitted themselves to be run off from the mouth of the Roanoke, but I may be mistaken and there may have been some good reason for acting as they did.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 2, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS.
A. A. G., Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

MAJOR: I inclose copies of letters received from Colonel Wardrop, commanding at Roanoke Island. This news is confirmed by Captain James, who has just arrived from Fort Monroe, via canal. I will only say that I indulge in the hope that Captain Smith, the senior naval officer now in the sounds will either infuse a new and better spirit into his subordinates here, or that he will direct the whole of the naval force to flee immediately for safety to other waters. I ought not perhaps to prejudge, but it occurs to me that the conduct of the vessels at the mouth of the Roanoke was, to say the least, not handsome. Lieutenant King, of the Engineers, has constructed some very simple and ingenious torpedoes, and takes eight of them to-day to the mouth of the Roanoke River. If the ram has returned up the river we hope to entice her down again after having placed these torpedoes, so as to insure her destruction.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

(Duplicate sent via Hatteras.—I. N. P.)

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF ALBEMARLE,
Roanoke Island, April 30, 1864.

Capt. J. A. JUDSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of North Carolina:

SIR: Yesterday p. m. the rebel ram came out of the Roanoke River. The gun-boats fell back to this island, where they now are. Consequently the ram is in possession of Albemarle Sound. Communication with Norfolk now, by canal route, is not safe, as they can bring down whatever they have on any of the rivers that empty into the sound.

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I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. W. WARDROP,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 2.

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF ALBEMARLE,
Roanoke Island, May 1, 1864—10.05 a. m.

Capt. J. A. JUDSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of North Carolina:

SIR: The gun-boats still remain here; one, however, is on picket in Albemarle Sound, about 5 miles above Croatan Light.

Refugees from the main report Beauregard with a large force at Weldon; this is corroborated by refugees that have arrived at Fort Monroe and Norfolk. The ram was not seen yesterday, and up to this time hear nothing from her. She was last seen on Friday off the mouth of Perquimans River.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. W. WARDROP,
Colonel, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 7. } *New Berne, N. C., May 2, 1864.*

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IV. The army gun-boats Reno and Shrapnel, with their officers and crews, are hereby attached to the command of Col. T. J. C. Amory, commanding Sub-District of New Berne. Reports and returns will be made accordingly.

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VI. The sub-district heretofore known as the Sub-District of the Pamlico, with headquarters at Washington, N. C., is hereby discontinued from this date. All orders and regulations applying to that sub-district are hereby annulled. The Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers and Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, having been ordered to Fort Monroe, Va., will be dropped from the returns. The two companies of the Fifth Rhode Island Artillery, recently serving in that sub-district, are hereby assigned to the Sub-District of New Berne. The officers of the general staff lately serving in that sub-district will report to the chiefs of their various staff departments for assignment to duty.

VII. The command at Hatteras Inlet is hereby attached to the Sub-District of New Berne, Col. Thomas J. C. Amory, Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding. Reports and returns will be made accordingly.

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By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CULPEPER, *May 3, 1864—12.30 p. m.*
(Received 2.10 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington:*

This army moves to-morrow morning. Will occupy Germanna, Ely's, and Culpeper Mine Fords by daylight the morning of the 4th.*

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* For portion of this dispatch (here omitted) see Vol. XXXIV, Part III, pp. 408, 409.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *May* 3, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:*

General Burnside has received over 600 wagons, 7 or 8 medical wagons, and over 180 ambulances. It was decided at Annapolis that 500 wagons would be enough for his force, then estimated at 35,000 men. He now asks that 75 more wagons, teams, and drivers, completely organized, be sent to him by railroad by to-morrow noon. This depot can furnish them, but they cannot be spared without injury to the service here. Shall they be sent?

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

CULPEPER, VA., *May* 3, 1864.
(Received 8.50 p. m.)

Brigadier-General MEIGS, *Quartermaster-General:*

Send no more wagons to the Ninth Corps. I have informed Burnside that he must send back everything his present supply of teams will not draw.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

MEADE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 3, 1864—noon.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have issued the orders for to-morrow; they can be suspended, if desired. General Burnside has sent 400,000 rations to Brandy. I am a little nervous about them in case the enemy to-morrow should cross and advance. Had he not better send as large a force as he can spare to be at Brandy to-morrow soon after daylight. Nothing new from the other side. No indications of disputing the passage of the lower fords.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CULPEPER, *May* 3, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE, *Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:*

You will move according to the orders issued. Burnside knows the fact, and has certainly made arrangements for guarding his stores. I will telegraph him, however.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 3, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *Culpeper:*

I shall leave these headquarters at 5 a. m. to-morrow and proceed to Germanna Ford, via Stevensburg. Should I leave Germanna Ford before you arrive, a staff officer will be left at that point to indicate where I may be found.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
May 3, 1864.

[General A. A. HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following reports:

I visited the river front this a. m. between Jacobs' and Morton's Fords. Couldn't see any signs of a general movement of the rebel army, but our redoubtes say that an unusual commotion prevailed in the rebel camp. They burned immense fires all night and sounded the long roll at 2 this a. m. Their pickets fired a few shots across the river.

J. GLOSKOSKI,
Captain and Signal Officer.

Also the following from Stony Mountain:

All quiet. The enemy still engaged on works in rear of Dr. Morton's house. Three small works at intervals of about 100 yards being constructed this a. m. near Dr. Morton's.

HOLLAND,
Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
Camp near Brandy Station, Va., May 3, 1864.

General M. C. MEIGS,
Q. M. Gen., U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to send you herewith copies of some orders which will show you the character of our movements. The order of General Meade is confidential for the present. This army is equipped and thoroughly supplied in every particular, so far as I can ascertain. There is a supply of sixteen days' subsistence and ten of forage on hand to-day. I have grain now in cars to fill up the wagons at the last moment. I have broken up most of our depots along the railroad this side of the Rappahannock, and have arranged for the vacation of them all at the proper moment. I suspect that Burnside will not leave Brandy Station entirely before late on the 5th. Mr. E. L. Wentz, in charge of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, has had an interview to-day with General Burnside and myself, and is fully aware of what he should do.

I have sent a few (three) of the principal depot quartermasters to the vicinity of Alexandria, with their employés, property, &c., to remain there until it is known where next to establish them. I beg you will not permit them to be interfered with, as it is of vital importance that they are prepared to take posts at new depots at a moment's notice from me. I shall try to keep you advised of our movements and wants. I hope we shall not be compelled to call for supplies on the Pamunkey. It is, in my opinion, almost as practicable at this time to supply an army by way of Culpeper to Richmond as from West Point or White House. I trust we shall be able soon to take our supplies up the James River. The West Point railroad could then be put in order at leisure. I wish to call your attention again to the subject of forage. I am informed that there is only an inconsiderable amount on hand, and that our sole reliance is to be in the arrangements of the purchasing officer in New York City.

An inquiry will probably satisfy you that the forage thus purchased has been very expensive, when you take into consideration the original cost, its excessively dear transportation at the expense of the Government, and loss by damage, &c. It is proper, however, that I content myself with reporting to you the amounts this army will require. You can judge, at this moment, as well as any one, where and when it will be required. In a former letter I suggested that supplies should be placed afloat at Fortress Monroe and held subject to our orders. I have the honor to inclose you a memorandum of our means of transportation, Burnside's command excepted, as reported to-day.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

RUFUS INGALLS,

Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

P. S.—Please excuse appearance of the memoranda; it was hastily prepared; it will answer your purpose, probably. The number of animals will prove somewhat greater, but not much.

R. I.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
May 3, 1864.

Chief quartermasters of corps and other independent commands will at once report to their respective commanding officers for orders as to the movements of the trains under the general order of movement just issued from these headquarters, and see that implicit obedience is given to such orders, and those conveyed herein. Chief quartermasters will as a rule remain near their commanding generals, so as to be able to communicate and execute their orders and such instructions as may be received from me. The quartermaster second in rank, with each command, will be placed immediately in charge of the trains, and will have most if not all the division and brigade quartermasters present with their trains, subject, however, to such exceptions as may be made, in writing, by corps and other independent commanders.

I shall be habitually at headquarters on the march, but shall sometimes be with the trains. My representatives will at all times be with the trains. Any orders in my name given, or conveyed by Captains Pitkin, Peirce, Howell, and Jones, assistant quartermasters, and Lieutenants Webster and Case, my aides-de-camp, will be obeyed and respected by all the officers of the quartermaster's department. The order of the movement of the trains to-morrow will be as follows: All the wagons of the army, except those specified in paragraph 10, of General Orders,* will be assembled at Richardsville. The trains of the Second Army Corps will move immediately in the rear of the pontoon train that follows the Artillery Reserve, taking the direct road to Richardsville. The Fifth Corps train will take the direct road from Stevensburg to Richardsville, in the rear of Second Corps train. The Sixth Corps train will cross the railroad near Ingalls' Station, between the cattle-pen and Captain Strang's depot, taking the road by Shaw's, Brown's, and Shackelford's to Paoli Mills, thence to Shepherd's Grove Post-Office, where they will

* See p. 333.

strike the main Richardsville road in the rear of the Fifth Corps trains. The headquarters, depot, and Artillery Reserve trains will move by the way of Kellysville, crossing Mountain Run at the saw-mill, thence to Richardsville. The trains of the Second Cavalry Division are supposed to be at or near Richardsville now. Those of the Third and First will follow the trains of the Fifth Corps, and all will go into park as directed by Captains Peirce and Pitkin, who will be on the spot.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

Report of the means of transportation in the Army of the Potomac, as reported this the 3d day of May, 1864, Major-General Burnside's command excepted.

Command.	Wagons.	Two-horse ambulances.	Four-horse ambulances.	Two-horse wagons.	Horses.	Mules.	Private horses.	Cavalry horses.	Artillery horses.	Ambulance horses.
Headquarters Army of the Potomac	107				200	646	56			
Second Corps	858	181			582	5,318	1,105		1,019	492
Fifth Corps	752	160			667	4,694	300		1,000	490
Sixth Corps	675	144		5	559	3,478	812	225	994	293
Cavalry Corps	553	52	1	13	450	3,290	1,080	15,470		126
Artillery Reserve	337	36		5	286	1,830	81	1	2,305	72
U. S. Engineer Battalion	20	3		1	44	99	1			6
Provost-marshal-general's department	49	14		1	71	219	72	612		36
General depot	100					650				
Total	3,451	590	1	25	2,859	20,184	4,107	16,311	5,158	1,415

NOTE.—Returns not complete, but reports of corps are accurate. Total about 3,500 wagons, 29,650 horses, 20,184 mules, 53,343.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General, Chief Quartermaster.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 134. } *May 3, 1864.*

* * * * * * * *

5. All details belonging to this army now at Brandy Station for any purpose whatever will be returned to their respective commands this evening.

6. Corps and other independent commanders will adopt the most vigorous measures to prevent any bonfires being made on the breaking up of camps, and they will impress upon their subordinates the necessity of a strict compliance with this order, in view of the importance of concealing our movement from the enemy. The most stringent orders will also be given and effectual measures taken for their execution to prevent stragglers from marauding and pillaging

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 3, 1864. (Received 10 p. m.)

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

The commanding general will leave his present headquarters at 5 a. m. to-morrow and proceed via Stevensburg to Germanna Ford, at which place a staff officer will be kept to indicate his further movements for the day.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Warren and Sedgwick.)

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
May 3, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

All quiet. Enemy still engaged on work in rear of Dr Morton's house. Three small works at intervals of about 100 yards are being constructed this morning near and just in rear of Buckner's house.

HOLLAND,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
May 3, 1864—5.15 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

All quiet. Enemy have finished and masked with pines the new works near Buckner's house reported this morning.

HOLLAND,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 3, 1864.

The command will move to-night, as follows: The First Division will move by the interior road to Madden's at 12 p. m. The Fourth Brigade, of the First Division, will move at 12 in the direction of Ely's Ford, followed by nine boats of the bridge train, with the necessary equipage. The Second Division will move immediately after the First. The Third Division will move at 12 p. m. by the road crossing Mountain Run, near Hamilton's house, striking the main road from Stevensburg to Ely's Ford, near Madden's house. The Fourth Division will move immediately after the Third. Each division will be followed by one-half of its ambulances, one medical and one hospital wagon to each brigade, and one-half of its reserve ammunition train. The Artillery Brigade will move by the interior road to Madden's at 8.30 p. m., and park on the left-hand side of the road. As each division passes Madden's the commander will assign a place in the column to the batteries assigned to it by the chief of artillery. Battery commanders assigned to divisions will report to division commanders at once for orders. The foot artillery and reserve batteries will move immediately in rear of Third Division train.

Each division and brigade headquarters will be allowed to move with its authorized spring wagon and pack animals. Commanders of divisions and independent brigades are authorized to take with their commands transportation for five days' forage for such animals as are not provided for by existing orders. The wagons exclusively for forage will be permitted to accompany each battery. The reserve ammunition of the artillery will not move with the Artillery Brigade. The pickets will be withdrawn at 8 p. m. The brigade of the Second Division, at Stony Mountain, will move at 8 p. m., joining its division. The supply train of the brigade will at the same time be moved to the north side of the Stevensburg and Germanna Ford road as near the Second Division camp as practicable, and the quartermaster in charge will report its location to the chief quartermaster of the corps. The right of way before 12 p. m. will be promptly given to any cavalry or bridge trains moving from near Paoli Mills across the Stevensburg and Germanna Ford road. The men previous to marching will be supplied with three days' full rations in haversacks and three days' bread and small rations in knapsacks, and 50 rounds of ammunition on the person. Three days' beef on the hoof will be drawn by commissaries of divisions and independent brigades.

One-half of the intrenching tools will move at the head of the ammunition train of the leading division. The commanding officer of the engineer detachment will detail an officer to take charge of these wagons. The Second, Third, and Fourth Divisions will each detail a regiment about 350 strong for guard for that portion of the train that does not immediately follow the command. These regiments are to rendezvous at these headquarters, and will be under the command of the senior officer present, who will obtain from the corps quartermaster, Lieut. Col. R. N. Batchelder, all the information necessary as to the location of the trains. No other guards will be allowed with any part of the trains. All safeguards are to be called in by 9 p. m. Headquarters of the corps will remain at Cole's Hill till 1 a. m. on the 4th. Captain McEntee, assistant quartermaster, will have general charge of the train that moves with the troops.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General BARLOW,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to repeat the verbal order he gave you this afternoon, that the head of your column must be at Ely's Ford by 6 a. m. to-morrow morning, May 4. If the cavalry have not succeeded in laying the bridge on your arrival within sight of the ford, you will mass your division beyond artillery range from the south bank and await orders. If the cavalry have crossed and have advanced sufficiently far, you will continue your movement to the ford and across the bridge, unless you receive other instructions.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 3, 1864.

This command will move promptly at 11.30 o'clock to-night, the Second Brigade leading, ambulances, forage wagons, and ammunition trains following division, 50 rounds of ammunition on person, three days' rations in haversacks, three days' bread and small rations in knapsacks, three days' beef on hoof, one hospital and one medical wagon to each brigade. The spring wagons and pack-mules to each brigade headquarters allowed. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation for five days' forage with command. The One hundred and tenth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers will be detailed for train guard, and commanding officer will report for orders. Pickets will be relieved at 8 p. m., and provision made to provide them with requisite rations and ammunition. Great care will be used to avoid all music or beating of drums, and commanding officers will be held strictly responsible for all unusual fires or any demonstration that would betray the movement to the enemy. All guards, safeguards, and detachments will be promptly relieved at once, and without further orders. The march for to-morrow may be a fatiguing one, but the commanding general is confident of the full support of his command, to endure all that could be expected of men. Success depends on celerity and boldness, and in the full and cheerful obedience of officers and men to orders.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. BIRNEY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 27. HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., SECOND CORPS.
May 3, 1864.

The undersigned hereby assumes command of this division.

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 3, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

Relieve the guard at Cedar Mountain at once, and draw in your pickets to-night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

GARNETT'S MOUNTAIN, *May* 3, 1864.

General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

No movements. All quiet.

FULLER,
Signal Officer.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS.
May 3, 1864.

GENERAL: The First Division, followed by the Third, will move at midnight, crossing the Mountain Run at the double bridge; thence

direct to Stevensburg; thence toward Doggett's; thence about 1 mile to a place marked "Ruins," at which point an officer will be stationed; thence the road will be marked by men stationed along the route to the plank road; thence along the plank road to Germanna Ford. The Fourth Division, followed by the Second, will proceed from Culpeper, keeping along the south side of Mountain Run, to Stevensburg; thence on the main road toward Shepherd's Grove to a place about 2½ miles beyond Stevensburg, marked "Ruins" on the map; thence to the right, over a road to be marked by persons on the ground, to the plank road; and thence to Germanna. These divisions will be careful not to cut into those they may find on their left, moving in the same direction.

The Artillery Brigade will at midnight move direct to Stevensburg; thence on the main road toward Shepherd's Grove to a place marked "Ruins" on the map; thence to the right, over a road to be marked by persons on the ground, to the plank road; thence to Germanna Ford. It will have precedence over the Fourth and Second Divisions, and follow the First and Third (each division having its train with it). Whenever the country will permit of different columns approaching each other, they will continue moving in parallel lines. The brigade will take wagons enough to insure five days' forage, one wagon for sales to officers, one wagon and spring wagon for brigade headquarters, one hospital and one medicine wagon, and half its ambulances. No other wagons will be allowed. The rest of the train of all kinds will be sent to the vicinity of Brandy Station, to make up the corps train, which will have an especial guard.

The men will carry three full days' rations in haversacks, three days' bread and small rations in the knapsacks, and three days' beef on the hoof. Care will be taken that no fires are built along the route, nor any unusual ones in the camps, as these may inform the enemy of our movement. The troops will cross the bridge at Germanna Ford as fast as possible, move out and eat their breakfasts on the other side, and then continue the march to Old Wilderness Tavern, taking up position there as fast as arriving, the First Division moving up the turnpike, toward Mine Run, about 1 mile. Each division will take half its own ammunition and half its ambulance train, one hospital and one medicine wagon for each brigade, wagons for five days' forage, and one wagon for headquarters of each division and brigade, and the wagons for sales to officers. No other wagons will be allowed.

The infantry will take 50 rounds of ammunition upon the person, three days' full rations in the haversacks, three days' bread and small rations in the knapsacks, and three days' beef on the hoof. General Griffin will detail a regiment of about 400 strong to guard the trains remaining behind;* the quartermaster in charge of these will send to Colonel Owen, quartermaster Fifth Corps, in Culpeper, for instructions. Division commanders will give instructions to all their officers to prevent their men from building fires along the line of march, or any unusual ones in camp, so as to indicate to the enemy our movements.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*Similar instructions to General Robinson.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 3, 1864.

The division will move at midnight in the following order: First, Second, and Third Brigades. Half the ammunition and half the ambulance trains will accompany the division; one hospital and one medicine wagon for each brigade; wagons for four days' forage and one wagon for headquarters of the division and each brigade, and the wagons for sales to officers. No other wagons will be allowed. Infantry will take 50 rounds of ammunition upon their persons, besides full rations in their haversacks, three days' bread and small rations in their knapsacks, and three days' beef on the hoof. Brigade commanders will give instructions to all officers to prevent their men building fires along the line or any unusual ones before leaving camp, so as not to disclose our movements to the enemy. Reveille will be at 11 p. m.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

C. B. MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA RESERVES,
THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 3, 1864.

I. The troops of this division will be in readiness to move at midnight.

II. Fifty rounds of ammunition will be carried upon the persons of the men, three days' full rations in the haversacks, three days' bread and small rations in the knapsacks, three days' beef on the hoof.

III. No fires will be kindled along the line of march for any purpose whatever. Brigade commanders are directed to take especial care that no bonfires are kindled upon leaving camp.

IV. One hospital wagon and one medicine wagon for each brigade, one wagon for brigade headquarters and the wagons for sales to officers, are allowed.

V. The following will be the order of march: First, the First Brigade; second, the Third Brigade; third, the ambulance train and medicine wagons; fourth, the ammunition train and subsistence wagons; fifth, the forage wagons.

VI. All details from the First Rifles will be at once returned to that regiment, which will habitually lead the column on the march.

VII. Colonel McCandless, commanding First Brigade, will send a staff officer to report to the adjutant-general of the division at midnight.

By command of General Crawford, commanding division:

ROBT. A. McCOY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 5TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 44. } *May* 3, 1864.

This command will move at 12 o'clock to-night, brigades in their numerical order. The First Brigade will move out of its camp at precisely 12 midnight. No transportation except the following will

be allowed to accompany the troops, viz: Brigade headquarters transports, one wagon with officers' supplies, one wagon with forage. The hospital and one-half the ambulance train will likewise follow the command. The order issued to-day as to the use of brigade headquarters transports is so far revoked that they will be loaded at the discretion of brigade commanders, but not so as to prevent the conveyance of one or two officers if necessary. Pack animals will be allowed to accompany brigades and regiments.

By command of Brigadier-General Wadsworth:

A. W. H. GILL,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 3, 1864.

This corps will move to-morrow at 4 a. m. by way of Stevensburg and the Germanna plank road to Germanna Ford, crossing the Rapidan after the Fifth Corps. The Second Division, Brigadier-General Getty commanding, will take the advance. Colonel Tompkins, commanding Artillery Brigade, will order one battery to report to General Getty. The First Division, Brigadier-General Wright commanding, Artillery Brigade, Colonel Tompkins commanding, and Third Division, Brigadier-General Ricketts, will follow in the order named. Fifty rounds of ammunition upon the person, three days' full rations in the haversacks, three days' bread and small rations in the knapsacks, and three days' beef upon the hoof will be carried.

The corps will take one-half its infantry ammunition, one-half the intrenching tools, one hospital and one medicine wagon for each brigade, one-half the ambulance trains and the light spring wagons allowed at the various headquarters. No other trains or means of transportation than those just specified will accompany the corps except such wagons as may be necessary for the forage for immediate use (five days'). The artillery will have with it the ammunition of the caissons only. The subsistence and other trains loaded with forage, ammunition, &c., heretofore ordered, will be assembled under the directions of the acting chief quartermaster of the corps in the vicinity of Richardsville, with a view of crossing the Rapidan at Ely's and Culpeper Mine Fords with the trains of the other corps.

The Fourth Brigade, First Division, Brigadier-General Shaler commanding, is detailed as guard for the train, and will be so disposed as to protect the train on the march and in park. No other guards whatever will be allowed. So much of the bridge train as may be necessary to bridge the Rapidan at Culpeper Mine Ford will proceed to Richardsville, in rear of the Reserve Artillery, and as soon as it is ascertained that the Reserve Artillery is crossing will move to Culpeper Mine Ford, where the bridge will be established. The engineers of the bridge train will at once open a road from Culpeper Mine Ford direct to Richardsville. Whatever of the train is not needed for the purpose will accompany the trains of the corps under direction of the acting chief quartermaster, as above specified. When the bridge at Culpeper Mine Ford is taken up it will move with the trains of the corps. During the movement division commanders will occupy the roads on the right flank to cover the passage of the troops, and will keep flankers well out in that direction.

Whenever practicable, double columns will be used to shorten the columns. All house guards will be withdrawn this afternoon and other pickets after dark.

By command of Major-General Sedgwick:

MARTIN T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 3, 1864.

This division will move to-morrow at 4 a. m. by way of Brandy Station and Stevensburg, following the Second Division. Order of march: First Brigade, Second Brigade, Third Brigade, ambulances. The First Brigade will follow close upon the Second Division. Fifty rounds upon the person, three days' full rations in the haversacks, three days' bread and small rations in the knapsack, and three days' beef upon the hoof will be carried. The division will take half of its infantry ammunition, one hospital and one medicine wagon for each brigade, half of the ambulance train and the light spring wagons allowed at the various headquarters; the latter will precede the ambulances. No other train or means of transportation will accompany the division, except such wagons as will be necessary for forage for immediate use (five days). The subsistence and other trains loaded with forage, ammunition, &c., heretofore ordered, will be assembled under the direction of the acting quartermaster of the corps in the vicinity of Richardsville. The Fourth Brigade, Brigadier-General Shaler commanding, is detailed as guard for the trains of the corps, and will be so posted as to protect the train on the march and in park. No other guards will be allowed. Company commanders will be held strictly responsible that no straggling is allowed, and that the column is at all times well closed up. As it is very desirable to conceal this movement from the enemy, the strictest orders will be given and enforced in relation to bonfires; none must be allowed.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 3, 1864.

The pickets of this division will be withdrawn after dark, and brigade commanders are directed to see that strong camp guards are at once established.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CULPEPER, *May* 3, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Warrenton Junction:*

All of General Meade's troops will be away from Brandy Station to-morrow morning. You must have a force there to guard your stores. They should be started up at once.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CULPEPER, *May* 3, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Warrenton Junction*:

General Grant directs that you leave as guard for the railroad sufficient force to hold it until the rolling-stock is removed. This will be done to-morrow. Order up your guards as fast as they are relieved by those of General Augur.

By order of Lieutenant-General Grant:

F. T. DENT,
Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. Army, Aide-de-Camp.

CULPEPER, *May* 3, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The number of wagons you now have is all that can be supplied. If they are insufficient for what you have to take, send back your surplus in the morning. It is not designed to haul anything but rations, forage, ordnance and medical stores.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 3, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Send the horses of the Twenty-second New York to Brandy Station. How many horses are there, and have all got equipments? Answer as soon as possible. Major-General Sheridan will have an officer to receive them.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 3, 1864.

General MEADE:

I think the regiment numbers about 800. Will not exceed 1,000. All have equipments.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 3, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

Colonel Marshall says that he has twenty-two wagons for 4,000 men, and that he needs ten more. Has received an order for marching. Colonel Raulston, of the [Twenty-fourth] New York Cavalry, says that his men's feet are in a very bad condition for marching with cavalry boots, and that they will scarcely be equal to much of a march to-morrow. His men have no knapsacks in which to carry the other three days' rations to make up the six on the person. General Willcox would like to know if the Eighth Michigan (guarding railroad bridge) are to go with him. He would like to have McCabe ordered to guide him.

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 3, 1864.

General FERRERO:

You are directed to be ready to move to-morrow morning, but not to strike tents until ordered.

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ALEXANDRIA, *May* 3, 1864.

Colonel RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery leaves to-morrow at 7 a. m., by order of General Briggs. The Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth U. S. Colored Troops and the Thirty-seventh Wisconsin have gone to Camp Casey, by order of General Casey.

Z. R. BLISS,
Colonel.

BRISTOE, *May* 3, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The Fifty-eighth Massachusetts arrived last night.

S. G. GRIFFIN,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 3, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN:

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 3, 1864.

General MEADE:

General Grant asked me if the horses for the Twenty-second New York would not be of more service to you in mounting some of your veterans than to me. I think they will. Where shall I send them?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

General Burnside has been requested to send the horses at once to Brandy Station, and that you would have an officer to receive them. I have also asked him to report the number of animals and equipments. If you desire you can meet them at Rappahannock Station.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 3, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN:

General Burnside says the Twenty-second New York Cavalry will be at Brandy Station somewhere between midnight and daylight. The men will be there dismounted, ready at once to turn over their horses to your people. Will you be prepared to receive them? Answer at once.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 3, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN:

The commanding general has directed that the line of telegraph between these headquarters and the Cavalry Corps be taken down, and also the line to General Wilson.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RESERVE BRIGADE, CAVALRY CORPS,
May 3, 1864.

Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff:

The following is forwarded for information of the major-general commanding: Lieutenant Ward, commanding pickets at Morton's Ford, writes at 4.30 a. m., that the long roll was beat at 3.30 a. m. to the right and left of my picket-line; unusually large fires in front of me in some places; looks as if the enemy were leaving their camps. Everything else quiet. The enemy has been reported every day for some time as being extremely vigilant, doubling his pickets and sounding reveille quite early.

Very respectfully,

W. MERRITT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

[Indorsement.]

MAY 3, 1864.

Copy of the above sent to General Humphreys, 10 a. m.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you move your division at 2 a. m. to-morrow to Ely's Ford and cross the Rapidan as soon as the canvas pontoon bridge is placed. If the river is fordable, cross at the ford; then as soon as the infantry of the Second Corps is up to the ford you will move to Piney Branch Church, or in that vicinity, throwing reconnaissances well out on the Pamunkey road toward Spotsylvania Court-House, Hamilton's Crossing, and Fredericksburg. The road past Piney Branch Church, Todd's Tavern, &c., will be kept clear for the passage of the infantry the following day. You will remain in this position to cover the passage of the army trains, and will move with them and cover their left flank. Your command will move with three days' rations in haversacks, two days' forage on horses and two days' in the wagons, in accordance with existing orders on the subject. Your subsistence in wagons will also be in accordance with existing orders. You will take with you your ambulances, transportation

wagons, and ammunition train, also, such brigade and division headquarters wagons as your good judgment will permit; one wagon to each should suffice. The balance of the wagons of your division will be parked at Richardsville, where you are now encamped; they will be guarded by your dismounted men, and will move with the balance of the army trains from Richardsville. Your trains will be under the direction of your quartermaster. All the trains of the corps will be in charge of Lieutenant-Colonel Howard, corps quartermaster. General Wilson's division will cross at Germanna Ford at the same time that you cross at Ely's, and as soon as the Fifth Corps reaches the ford will move forward and take position at or near Parker's Store, and will then move forward reconnaissances on the pike toward Orange Court-House as far as Robertson's Tavern, and also on the plank road, Catharpin, Pamunkey, Hope Church, and Ormand's [Almond's] roads. Open communications with General Wilson after crossing the river, and keep them open. The Second Corps will encamp at or near Chancellorsville, the Fifth Corps at Old Wilderness Tavern on the night of the 4th. Cavalry Corps headquarters will be near army headquarters on the night of the 4th instant, and at a point between the Fifth and Sixth Army Corps, on the Germanna plank road, near Old Wilderness. The general directs me to impress on you the absolute necessity of communicating freely with the commanding general of the Second Army Corps, that supports you, and these headquarters.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to forward you the inclosed copy of the order* for the movement of the different army corps of this army. This copy is sent you as the divisions of this corps will be separated. The general desires that you read and fix in your mind the different points and roads to be traveled and guarded, and return this order to these headquarters by the bearer.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
May 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG:
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general thinks that after your ammunition train crosses the river, it had better be stopped and let it fall in with the ammunition train of the Second Corps.

Very respectfully,

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

*See Orders, May 2, headquarters Army of the Potomac, p. 331.

MAY 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILSON, *Third Cavalry Division*:

The horses of the Twenty-second New York Cavalry will not be at Brandy Station until about 12 o'clock to-night. Hold your detachment until they come.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 166. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, May 3*, 1864.

* * * * * * *

27. Brig. Gen. Charles Devens, U. S. Volunteers, will report in person without delay to the commanding general Department of Virginia and North Carolina, for assignment to duty with Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, U. S. Volunteers.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA, *Fort Monroe, Va., May 3*, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: By direction of the commanding general of the department, I have the honor to submit the following explanation of the battle-flags to be used by the troops of this command during the coming campaign: The flag carried by department headquarters will be 6 feet square, two horizontal bars, upper bar red, lower bar blue, with a white star in the center; the flag carried by the headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps will be 6 feet square, blood red, with number "18" in the center; First Division flag, same size, blood red, with a single white star in the center; Second Division flag, same size and color, with two white stars in the center; Third Division flag, same size and color, with three white stars in the center. The flag carried by the Tenth Army Corps will be 6 feet square, dark blue, with the number "10" in the center; First Division flag, same size and color, with a single white star in the center; Second Division flag, same size and color, with two white stars in the center; Third Division, same size and color, with three white stars in the center. Brigade colors will be furnished as soon as practicable.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. A. KENSEL,
Lieut. Col. and A. I. G., Dept. of Va. and N. C.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Yorktown, Va., May 3*, 1864.

Brigadier-General WISTAR,
Commanding Brigade, Second Division, Eighteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding corps directs me to give you the following instructions: The ordnance officer of General

Heckman's command has loaded wagons with ammunition of caliber .574. He has gone for the rest in steamer to Fort Monroe, and will be at Grove Landing with it early in the morning. It will be divided out on the dock among the regiments requiring it. Transports will be there to-morrow during the day with a load of forage, which will be unloaded and the ammunition put on according to assignment of regiments. Your command will march so as to arrive at Grove Landing when it is fairly dark to-morrow evening, at which time you will commence to embark. You will make your men comfortable; show no lights and permit no noise. About 2.30 a. m. 5th instant you will move out into the stream, so as to fall in rear of Heckman's brigade when it arrives. Some signal will be designated to you by which you will know his rear boat (by telegraph). You will disembark, left in front, and embark accordingly. Heckman's embarkation will be attended to at these headquarters. Inclosed I send two copies of list of transports.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Yorktown, Va., May 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General WISTAR,
Comdg. Brigade, Second Div., Eighteenth Army Corps

GENERAL: The major-general commanding corps directs me to give you the following orders: Your command will march so that the head of your column will reach the wharf at 7.30 a. m. precisely to-morrow. You will order your embarkation so that you may debark left in front. As soon as the head of your brigade reaches the wharf you will report in person at these headquarters for further instructions.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 3, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
A. A. G., Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fortress Monroe, Va.:

MAJOR: I had the honor of addressing you a few days ago concerning the large amount of subsistence stores arriving here.* Since that time, however, I have been informed by Captain Goldthwait, commissary of subsistence at this post, that he was told by Colonel Small that no more stores were to be sent to this post. Colonel Small, however, gave no directions concerning the disposition of the stores which had already arrived. A large schooner, the Merchon, is now lying at Hatteras loaded with commissary stores, and drawing so much water that she cannot get across the bar, and as Colonel Small said to Captain Goldthwait that he wanted all the subsistence stores that he could get at Fortress Monroe, I have determined to take the responsibility of sending her to the fortress. The

* See Vol. XXXIII, p. 1031.

steamer Mount is now here, loaded with such stores as this garrison is already abundantly supplied with, and I have determined to send her also to the fortress. I am well aware that I am assuming considerable responsibility by sending those vessels back, but although I am confident that these stores were sent here for a wise purpose, still I am of the opinion that things have taken a different course from what was then intended, and the statement of Colonel Small to Captain Goldthwait has strengthened this belief and I have now determined to make these dispositions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 8. } *New Berne, N. C., May 3, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

IV. Col. Thomas J. C. Amory, Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers, is hereby relieved from the command of the Sub-District of New Berne, and will report for orders to Brig. Gen. Edward Harland, U. S. Volunteers.

V. Brig. Gen. Edward Harland, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the Sub-District of New Berne, vice Colonel Amory, relieved.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATCHELDER'S CREEK, N. C., *May 3*, 1864—7.35 p. m.

Capt. J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of North Carolina:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you that I have, to me, satisfactory proof that no force of the enemy are now menacing New Berne, either by land or water.

I have the honor to be, captain, your obedient servant,

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding at Batchelder's Creek.

WASHINGTON CITY, *May 4*, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Governor BROUGH,
Columbus:

General Grant crossed the Rapidan this morning and is moving on Lee. Sherman moved to-day on Johnston from Chattanooga. Another army will move to-morrow. Your force cannot be ready for the field too soon. Let me know whatever is wanted and it will be supplied.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

(Same to Governor Morton, Indianapolis; Governor Yates, Chicago; Governor Stone, Davenport, Iowa, and Governor Lewis, Madison, Wis.)

GERMANNA FORD, *May* 4, 1864.
(Received 1.50 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The crossing of the Rapidan effected. Forty-eight hours now will demonstrate whether the enemy intends giving battle this side of Richmond. Telegraph Butler that we have crossed the Rapidan.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864.

SOLDIERS: Again you are called upon to advance on the enemies of your country. The time and the occasion are deemed opportune by your commanding general to address you a few words of confidence and caution. You have been reorganized, strengthened, and fully equipped in every respect. You form a part of the several armies of your country, the whole under the direction of an able and distinguished general, who enjoys the confidence of the Government, the people, and the army. Your movement being in co-operation with others, it is of the utmost importance that no effort should be left unspared to make it successful. Soldiers! the eyes of the whole country are looking with anxious hope to the blow you are about to strike in the most sacred cause that ever called men to arms.

Remember your homes, your wives and children, and bear in mind that the sooner your enemies are overcome the sooner you will be returned to enjoy the benefits and blessings of peace. Bear with patience the hardships and sacrifices you will be called upon to endure.

Have confidence in your officers and in each other. Keep your ranks on the march and on the battle-field, and let each man earnestly implore God's blessing, and endeavor by his thoughts and actions to render himself worthy of the favor he seeks. With clear consciences and strong arms, actuated by a high sense of duty, fighting to preserve the Government and the institutions handed down to us by our forefathers—if true to ourselves—victory, under God's blessing, must and will attend our efforts.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864—7.15 p. m.

General RAWLINS:

Transmitting the accompanying order of march for the 5th instant, I am directed by the major-general commanding to state that he has directed his headquarters to be ready to move to-morrow morning at 5 o'clock.

S. WILLIAMS.

[Inclosure.]

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864—6 p. m.

The following movements are ordered for the 5th of May, 1864:

1. Major-General Sheridan, commanding Cavalry Corps, will move with Gregg's and Torbert's divisions against the enemy's cavalry in the direction of Hamilton's Crossing. General Wilson, with the Third Cavalry Division, will move at 5 a. m. to Craig's Meeting-House, on the Catharpin road. He will keep out parties on the Orange Court-House pike and plank roads, the Catharpin road, Pamunkey road (road to Orange Springs), and in the direction of Twyman's Store and Andrews' Tavern or Good Hope Church.

2. Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps, will move at 5 a. m. to Shady Grove Church and extend his right toward the Fifth Corps at Parker's Store.

3. Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps, will move at 5 a. m. to Parker's Store, on the Orange Court-House plank road, and extend his right toward the Sixth Corps at Old Wilderness Tavern.

4. Major-General Sedgwick, commanding Sixth Corps, will move to Old Wilderness Tavern, on the Orange Court-House pike, as soon as the road is clear. He will leave a division to cover the bridge at Germanna Ford until informed from these headquarters of the arrival of General Burnside's troops there.

5. The Reserve Artillery will move to Corbin's Bridge as soon as the road is clear.

6. The trains will be parked in the vicinity of Todd's Tavern.

7. Headquarters will be on the Orange Court-House plank road near the Fifth Corps.

8. After reaching the points designated, the army will be held ready to move forward.

9. The commanders of the Fifth and Sixth Corps will keep out detachments on the roads on their right flank. The commander of the Second Corps will do the same on the roads on his front. These flankers and pickets will be thrown well out and their troops be held ready to meet the enemy at any moment.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

STONY MOUNTAIN, *May* 4, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

Enemy's camps unchanged. Party at work in rear of Raccoon Ford. Two parties of 100 men have just come down near Dr. Morton's house.

TAYLOR.

PONY MOUNTAIN, *May* 4, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

Atmosphere unfavorable for observation.

PAINE.

CONFEDERATE SIGNAL MESSAGES.*

STONY MOUNTAIN, *May* 4, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

From Clark's Mountain to General Ewell.

From present indications everything seems to be moving to the ..ast, on Germanna and Ely's Ford roads, leaving cavalry in our front.

W.,
Captain.

No change as yet.

TAYLOR.

STONY MOUNTAIN, *May* 4, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

From Clark's Mountain to General Ewell.

We are moving. Had I not better move D. and D. toward New Verdierville?

R.

Enemy still digging. No change yet observed.

TAYLOR.

STONY MOUNTAIN, *May* 4, 1864.

From Clark's Mountain to General Ewell.

Colonel C. will give orders about the trains.

STONY MOUNTAIN SIGNAL STATION,
May 4, 1864—3 p. m.

Captain FISHER:

Enemy moving infantry and trains toward Verdierville. Two brigades gone from this front. Camps on Clark's Mountain breaking up. Battery still in position behind Dr. Morton's house, and infantry pickets on the river.

TAYLOR.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864—7 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

A negro boy, belonging to General Cook, an employé in the War Department, Richmond, left there Monday a. m. to go to the man he is hired to in Jeff. Davis' Legion at Gordonsville; saw Longstreet's men (Georgians, Alabamians, Mississippians—no Virginians) marching in what he supposed to be a direction to left of Orange Court-House. He came yesterday and to-day from Orange along the river bank; says there are no pickets this side of Mine Run; says while making fire in War Department Saturday heard Mr. Williams in the Department say that Beauregard was on the Peninsula; nothing at Hanover Junction but cavalry; boy brought in by scouts; sent up river this p. m.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

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* Intercepted by Union signal officers.

FORTRESS MONROE, VA., *May* 4, 1864.
(Received 4.10 a. m. 5th.)

Col. G. H. SHARPE,
Provost-Marshal, Army of the Potomac:

Please send me any statement that the man you spoke of in your dispatch of 2d has to make. The dispatch was not received till late last night; wires down; no news. Beauregard and Wise are in Virginia somewhere; can't place them; hope to know in a day or two; will communicate with you; letter goes to-night.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, &c.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

MY DEAR COLONEL: I have received your note of the 1st instant, and am glad to see things are progressing so favorably. I see you have as yet no Coehorns shipped, and that reminds me to ask you how many Coehorn mortars can be got. We will probably need all we can get. I have eight with me, and it would be well for the Ordnance Department to collect all they can. We move to-morrow; so you will soon hear from us in some shape, and will know about how soon the siege train will be required. Address as usual.

Truly, yours,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—Would it not be well for you to set apart a few men, with a good officer with some experimental practice with light 12-pounders to be used as mortars, *i. e.*, try the ranges with different weights of powder, and see how the carriage will stand it, if necessary, to throw very heavy showers of shell in curved fire? I think that by digging a hole, and so lowering the trail—diminishing the charge—we will, at a pinch, be able to turn our light 12-pounders to very good account. Provision should be made, if the experiments prove satisfactory, to send on short notice a supply of 12-pounder shell. Can you send me, with your next letter to headquarters Army of the Potomac, a table of ranges for heavy rifled guns—30-pounder Parrotts and 4½ inch? I have none, and would like to have them about me; also a copy of heavy artillery.

Yours, truly,

H.

WASHINGTON NAVY-YARD, *May* 4, 1864.

Capt. H. V. SLOSSON,
Comdg. Pontoon Detachment, Rappahannock:

The commanding general desires to know whether you laid down or exchanged the bridge you took on with you, and if you expect that General Burnside will be able to allow yourself and the most of your men to return. Lieutenant Sergeant is needed here as soon as he can be spared.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK, *May* 4, 1864.

General H. W. BENHAM,
Navy-Yard:

Bridge laid at 11 a. m. the 3d. Will return if I can; if not, will have to go on by order of General Burnside.

H. V. SLOSSON,
Captain, Fifteenth New York Engineers.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

The head of my column arrived here at 5.30, and has just commenced crossing the canvas bridge. The wooden bridge is being laid. General Gregg is moving to Chancellorsville. I shall move on at once.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Germanna Ford, May 4, 1864—8.35 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to acknowledge your dispatch of 6.30 a. m., and to say that one division of cavalry has crossed at this point, and when last head from had reached Old Wilderness Tavern. One division of infantry has also crossed and another is about crossing. The crossing here is slow.

I am, very respectfully,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Chancellor's House, May 4, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

My leading division is just encamping on the Fredericksburg road, beyond this place. Have heard nothing of the enemy. General Gregg has moved to Alrich's and Piney Branch Church. He reports that there is no infantry (rebel) near Fredericksburg; also that there is a cavalry review to-day at Hamilton's Crossing. I shall push my pickets down the plank road to try and connect with General Warren, where the Germanna plank road comes in.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Chancellorsville, May 4, 1864—11.05 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Two divisions are in camp, and the others are well up. Nothing new at this date.

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch received. Orders for the march to-morrow will be sent this p. m. Some modification of order of movement has been made. Reserve Artillery will close up on you; trains close up to Reserve Artillery, and those from Culpeper Ford will park near Dowdall's. Torbert's division of cavalry will cross at Ely's to-morrow at daylight and move out and join Gregg. Let it have way when it comes up. Warren is getting up to his position, and Sedgwick is now crossing to his. Some few shots have been fired toward Robertson's Tavern. Enemy moving; some force coming out toward New Verdierville.

By command of Major-General Meade:

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Chancellorsville, May 4, 1864—1.40 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army of the Potomac:

Three divisions in camp; other division and all the transportation, and the canvas bridge train are on the road; everything is across. All transportation with the command has crossed, and is following the canvas-boat train to this point.

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 4, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I send this to inform you I picket the gravel road toward Chancellorsville, to about where it joins the plank road, marked "Hawkins" on our map, where I expect to connect with you. All right with us. I do not say more for fear this may be captured.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

ELY'S FORD, *May* 4, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

Stony Mountain not in sight. No signal station as yet at the upper fords. Enemy at Clark's Mountain do not seem to observe us.

HOLLAND,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

CHANCELLORSVILLE, *May* 4, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

No enemy visible from this point.

HOLLAND,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
May 4, 1864—1 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

All quiet. Nothing to be seen from this point.

HOLLAND,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 4, 1864.

The following movements are ordered for to-morrow: The Second Division will move at 5 a. m., followed in succession by the Third and Fourth Divisions, to Shady Grove, by way of the Furnaces, Todd's Tavern, and the Catharpin road. In order to leave the road clear for cavalry from Ely's Ford, the Fourth Division will move at 5 a. m. and mass on the west side of the plank road near the Chancellor house. The First Division will move at 6 a. m., or as soon thereafter as the road is cleared by Torbert's cavalry division, and will follow the same route as the preceding divisions. Each division will be followed by its spring wagons and ambulance train. Other wagons permitted to move with the troops will move in rear of the column, under charge of Captain McEntee, assistant quartermaster. The foot artillery and reserve battery will follow the ambulance train of the First Division. The First Division will furnish a rear guard of one brigade. The pickets of the division will be withdrawn in time to join the rear guard. Pickets of other divisions will be withdrawn at 5 a. m. The corps train will move to the vicinity of Todd's Tavern when the road is clear. The flankers on the left and skirmishers will be pushed well out. The commands moving on the plank or Ely's Ford road will keep to the right and leave the road clear for cavalry. All division commanders did not comply to-day with existing orders, requiring the reports of absentees at roll-call in the evening in camp.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL.] HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 4, 1864.

The order of march for this division will be: First Brigade, Second Brigade, Third Brigade, Fourth Brigade. The Fourth Brigade will act as rear guard, and will have the picket withdrawn in time to join it for the march.

By order of Brigadier-General Barlow:

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 4, 1864.

Brigade commanders will hold their brigades well in hand, as they are liable to march at any moment. No more fires will be allowed than are necessary to cook coffee. If the order to march does not arrive before daylight to-morrow the whole command will stand to arms at that time.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

T. W. EAYRE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 4, 1864.

This division will march at 5 a. m. precisely to-morrow. Brigade and battery commanders will see that their men have breakfast and are under arms at that time. Attention is invited to inclosed circular from corps headquarters for the details of the march.* The order of march will be: First, Second Brigade; second, batteries; third, First Brigade; fourth, ambulances; fifth, spring wagons.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

T. W. EAYRE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Germanna Ford, May 4, 1864—4.40 a. m.

General WARREN:

My Second Brigade has crossed without any resistance. No force of the enemy found here. The First Brigade of my division will soon be crossing.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Division.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Germanna Ford, May 4, 1864—5.50 a. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Comdg. Fifth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: The last regiment of my command is crossing. My advance is well out. No resistance shown as yet. The bridge is nearly completed.

Yours, respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

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*See p. 376.

HDQRS. FIFTH ARMY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Old Wilderness Tavern, May 4, 1864—3.05 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My whole command is in this vicinity. There was no water to camp on after leaving Flat Lick Run. General Robinson is about 1 mile nearer to you than the rest. He pickets along the plank road to connect with General Getty, of the Sixth Corps, at Flat Lick Run. General Wadsworth throws out a picket-line along the gravel road, 3 miles toward Chancellorsville, to near the junction with the plank road. My position is good. The men are almost all in camp washing their feet, and with a good night's rest will feel fine. I have repaired the bridges here, at least six in number, otherwise not passable for wagons, and left a large pioneer force to complete the crossings at Flat Lick Run, besides calling General Getty's attention to them. I have one brigade out nearly 1 mile toward Parker's Store.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general desires you to be particular to note the hour upon all dispatches forwarded to these headquarters, as well as the hour you may receive any sent from here.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Hancock and Sedgwick.)

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Parker's Store, May 4, 1864—7.50 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

My whole division is at this place, patrols and advanced parties well out on the Spotsylvania and Orange roads. No enemy on former, and but small parties on this. Drove them 6 miles, or to within 1 mile of Mine [Run] road. Patrol from here toward Robertson's not yet reported. Rodes' division reported to be stretched along the road as far as 12 miles this side of Orange. Will notify you of any changes in this direction.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Wilderness Tavern, May 4, 1864—8.30 p. m.

The command will be held ready to move at 5 a. m. to-morrow. Further instructions will be given in the morning. The order of march will be as follows: Third Division leading, next Fourth Di-

vision, followed by Second, First Division in rear. The batteries will march with the divisions in the order of assignment of to-day. Flankers will be thrown well out to the right from each division. In passing any road, each division will leave a detachment in a good covering position, well out on the right flank, to hold the road while it passes, this detachment to be relieved by the division next in rear. The trains will move with their divisions, and on the left of the road, the infantry marching on the right. The troops must be kept well closed and held well in hand, ready to meet an attack at any moment. The head of column will move slowly, to enable the divisions to keep well closed up on each other. The necessity for this is paramount, and must be kept constantly in mind.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Wilderness, May 4, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you make a detail of 600 men from your command, to picket the front of your division. You will connect on the left with General Crawford and on the right with General Robinson. Colonel Jenkins, One hundred and forty-sixty New York Volunteers, is detailed as general officer of outposts.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 4, 1864.

Capt. C. B. MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: My picket-line is established. General Ayres has not sent a picket out yet. When he does he says he will connect with me. Sweitzer's line will connect with my left.

Very respectfully,

JOS. J. BARTLETT,
Brigadier-General.

Cavalry withdrawing their lines.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 4, 1864.

This division will move to-morrow at 6 a. m. in the same order as to-day, the First Brigade following the Second Division. The troops will march by the left flank. Strong flankers will be thrown out in time to take the place of the picket, which will be withdrawn at 6 a. m. Troops will keep the right of the road, leaving the road for the trains. The troops will be kept well closed up and ready to meet the enemy at any moment. The ammunition train will follow the ambulances.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GERMANNA FORD, *May* 4, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Crossing effected. Put your troops in motion as soon as General Augur relieves you and the trains are south of Bull Run.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

GERMANNA FORD, *May* 4, 1864—1.15 p. m.
(Received 1.56 p. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Make forced marches until you reach this place. Start your troops now in the rear, the moment they can be got off, and require them to make a night march. Answer.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, *May* 4, 1864—3.58 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Germanna Ford:

Dispatch received; will start column at once.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 4, 1864.

Major ECKERT,
War Department:

There will be no force to-morrow at Rappahannock to protect the operator.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, VA., *May* 4, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR,
Washington, D. C.:

We have seen or heard nothing of General Tyler yet. My troops are on the move.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
Washington, D. C., May 4, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Warrenton Junction:

General Tyler, with the regiments for the road guard, left Fairfax Station this morning. They will all be in position to-day.

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

MAY 4, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I have placed guards upon the bridges between Bull Run and the Rappahannock as ordered by General Augur. The rolling-stock is expected to be off by 10 o'clock to-night.

R. O. TYLER,
Brigadier-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 4, 1864.

General AUGUR:

I have distributed the troops on Cannon, Broad, Little, and Cedar Runs; three companies at each except Bristoe, where I have left four companies. Seventeenth [One hundred and seventieth?] New York.

R. O. TYLER,
Brigadier-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK, *May* 4, 1864.

SUPERINTENDENT RAILROAD,
Alexandria:

Do you know where Captain Wiley, commissary, is? If so, please make arrangements to send forward by daylight 100,000 rations of coffee, hard bread, sugar, and salt to this place, even at the expense of losing the engine. The rations should be invoiced to Capt. Parker D. Boyd, commissary of subsistence. Answer at once if it can be done, and at what hour to expect the train.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 4, 1864.

Captain PITKIN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Brandy:

When will the last of your trains be loaded to go over the road?

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BRANDY, *May* 4, 1864.

Col. LEWIS RICHMOND:

Your dispatch is received. We have at this station a large amount of forage and subsistence stores for issue to the troops of General Burnside's command. As soon as we can dispose of them we can send the balance away at once. Please inform me at what time officers will be here to draw stores required by General Burnside.

P. P. PITKIN,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

MAY 4, 1864.

R. J. NICHOLL,
Warrenton Junction:

Everything must be on the way in before sundown. Order what cars you need immediately and load up at once.

M. J. McCRICKETT.

MAY 4, 1864.

M. J. McCRICKETT:

Suppose you countermanded your order for the empty cars, and the stores were abandoned, how soon could you leave?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

BRANDY, *May* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

If the stores are to be abandoned, we can get the rolling-stock ready to leave here in two hours. A portion of the stock can be loaded in empty cars, which have just arrived, while we are preparing to leave. Please instruct.

M. J. McCRICKETT.

RAPPAHANNOCK, VA., *May* 4, 1864.

M. J. McCRICKETT,
Brandy:

All the stores you cannot take with you will be abandoned and destroyed. Instructions in regard to destroying them will be given by me to the commanding officer. Can you get off by 7 o'clock? Has Colonel Marshall's command reached Brandy yet?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK, *May* 4, 1864.

E. L. WENTZ:

General Burnside desires that everything be run beyond Bull Run by sundown. Please give orders to load up at Warrenton Junction immediately.

M. J. McCRICKETT.

MAY 4, 1864.

G. M. HUNTINGTON:

Send empty cars promptly wherever they are needed. Everything must be beyond Bull Run at sundown. Two empty cars are wanted here. There are fifteen loaded now here. Bealeton is supplied.

M. J. McCRICKETT.

MAY 4, 1864.

General STEVENSON,
Brandy:

Is the whole of your command up? Please come to the office.

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BRANDY, *May* 4, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND:

Command all here, excepting the Twenty-first and Fifty-ninth Massachusetts, which were left behind to guard the road.

THOS. G. STEVENSON,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 4, 1864.

General STEVENSON,
Brandy:

Colonel Wilhelm, Second Pennsylvania, will report to you for assignment in the Second Brigade.

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BEALETON, *May* 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General STEVENSON,
Brandy Station:

Concentrate your command and await further orders from me.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, *May* 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General STEVENSON,
Brandy:

Start your command at once for Germanna Ford, leaving the Reserve Artillery with the heavy artillery and Twenty-fourth New York to guard it.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, *May* 4, 1864.

General STEVENSON,
Brandy:

You need not wait any longer at office. Leave an orderly there.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 4, 1864.

Colonel WILHELM,
Second Pennsylvania, Brandy:

You will report to General Stevenson at Brandy.

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BRANDY, *May* 4, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Colonel Marshall and his command are here, and the reserve batteries here. No water near Ingalls' Station. What shall they do?

S. N. BENJAMIN,
Lieutenant, Acting Aide-de-Camp.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, VA., *May* 4, 1864.

Lieutenant BENJAMIN,
Chief of Artillery, Brandy:

Let the reserve batteries remain at Brandy.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK, *May* 4, 1864.

Colonel MARSHALL,
Commanding Provisional Brigade:

Hold yourself in readiness to march to-morrow morning at 5 o'clock with your entire command. Is the Second Pennsylvania with you now, or was it put off at Brandy Station? Has it any transportation? If not, you must transport the officers' baggage, and stores will be provided for them. Please answer by the bearer of this.

Very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

TWO MILES BEYOND RAPPAHANNOCK STATION,
May 4, 1864—2.45 p. m.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, NINTH ARMY CORPS:

SIR: The Second Pennsylvania Artillery was put off at Brandy and brought back with me to this point. They have four wagons, and can transport only officers' baggage. My brigade commissary has just returned from Brandy, and cannot obtain rations for my command. The Fourteenth New York Artillery is now entirely out of rations, nothing for their breakfast. The Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry (dismounted) will be on to-morrow night, and the Second Pennsylvania Artillery the next night.

Respectfully,

E. G. MARSHALL,
Colonel Fourteenth New York Artillery,
Comdg. Provisional Brigade, Ninth Army Corps.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division, Bristoe:

Leave two regiments on the line now occupied by your division, and remove the remainder of it to Bealeton to-day. Give the officer in charge of the two regiments left behind instructions to patrol the road well, and see that telegraphic communications are kept open and be in readiness to join you at Bealeton during the night. In the absence of any other orders, he will move forward to join you with all possible speed upon the arrival of guards from Washington, and the assurance that all transportation has left the line of the road for Alexandria, which will probably be before sundown to-day. The Third New Jersey Cavalry and Thirteenth Pennsylvania will remain in their present position until further orders. They should have an

officer at Nokesville, ready to receive instructions. In the absence of any other order, they will move to the front with the two regiments left behind by you. Please stop at Nokesville and report to me by telegraph for any further orders.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

BEALETON, *May* 4, 1864.

General ROBERT B. POTTER,
Nokesville:

It is very desirable that you reach Bealeton to-night if it is a possible thing. Report to me from Warrenton Junction.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 4, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

Just here; will rest and move on. Head of column will reach Bealeton about 6 p. m.

ROBT. B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

BEALETON, *May* 4, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

My division is within half an hour of this. Train will be late getting up. I wish Bliss would come and take command of First Brigade; no one to do it. Any orders?

ROBT. B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Bristoe Station, May 4, 1864.

Col. S. G. GRIFFIN,
Commanding Second Division, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: You will leave two regiments of your command, the Ninth New Hampshire and one other, to guard the line now occupied by this division, and put the balance of your command on the road without delay, and move toward Catlett's without further orders, following the First Brigade. Instruct the officer in command of the two regiments left to patrol the road, and see that the telegraph communication is kept open. In the absence of other orders, he will move forward to join the division at Bealeton with all possible speed on the arrival of guards from Washington, and on the assurance that all transportation has left the line of road for Alexandria, which will probably be before sundown to-day.

By command of Brig. Gen. R. B. Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK, *May* 4, 1864.

General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

In order to make it sure that your regiments left behind will join you, please take immediate measures to notify them to join their division early to-morrow morning. Major McCabe has been ordered to report to you.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Telegraph is not in operation, and I have sent to General Ferrero and General Potter to relieve your men, but you had better send direct yourself.

A. E. BURNSIDE.

RAPPAHANNOCK, *May* 4, 1864.

General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: You will move your command at 5 o'clock to-morrow morning direct to Germanna Ford, keeping your trains well guarded. I will see you during the course of the march and give you such orders as may be necessary. The Reserve Artillery will accompany you, and you will please have them march in rear of your columns, with a suitable guard. You can give necessary instructions to Captain Edwards.

Yours, truly,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Manassas:

You will not move your division till further orders, keeping up a strict guard on the railroad; at the same time hold your command in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 4, 1864.

General FERRERO:

Be ready to start at a moment's notice. I may want you to join me at Rappahannock Station before morning. Has a train with Second Pennsylvania Cavalry passed your place this morning?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
Rappahannock, May 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division:

The commanding general directs that you proceed with your command at 4 o'clock to-morrow morning for this place, thence direct to

Germanna Ford, where you will receive further orders. If possible, reach Germanna Ford to-morrow night. Please send to Third New Jersey Cavalry and Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry at Kettle Run to join you, unless they have already marched with General Potter; also please notify the regiments of the Second Division that were left on the road in your rear, together with all other troops of the Ninth Corps that are within your reach, to join their divisions at once by the same road.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Please send a sergeant and 4 of your own men to the Third New Jersey and the Thirteenth Pennsylvania.

RAPPAHANNOCK, *May* 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO:

Get your whole command in readiness to move and start at 5 p. m. to-day and make Warrenton Junction to-night.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, VA.,
May 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Manassas:

Make Warrenton Junction to-night, and early to-morrow morning push right on. From this place take the direct road to Germanna Ford without going to Brandy, and lose no time.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *May* 4, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA and
COMMANDING OFFICER THIRD NEW JERSEY CAVALRY,
Nokesville:

Hold your command in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Have an officer at telegraph station to await orders from me. Your first march will probably be to Rappahannock Station.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, VA., *May* 4, 1864.

COMDG. OFFICER THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,
Nokesville:

General Burnside directs that you will march with your command at 3 a. m. May 5, and report to him at Germanna Ford. Major McCabe, at Warrenton Junction, will act as guide.

F. VAN VLIET,
First Lieut., Third Cav., U. S. Army, Aide-de-Camp.

Warn all details and stragglers to hurry to the front.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 4, 1864.

Major MCCABE,
Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Warrenton Junction:

The general commanding directs that you move your force on at once and report to General Willcox, who is just over the Rappahannock bridge. Acknowledge receipt of order.

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, VA., *May* 4, 1864.

Major MCCABE,
Warrenton Junction:

General Burnside directs that you will guide the Third New Jersey Cavalry and the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry to this place; then take the Germanna Ford road and report to General Burnside with the whole command at Germanna Ford.

F. VAN VLIET,
First Lieut., Third Cav., U. S. Army, Aide-de-Camp.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, VA., *May* 4, 1864.

COMDG. OFFICER TWENTY-SECOND NEW YORK CAVALRY,
Brandy Station:

General Burnside directs that you will move your regiment to Brandy Station at 4 a. m., remain there until 6 a. m.; then take the Germanna Ford road and report to General Burnside at Germanna Ford.

F. VAN VLIET,
First Lieut., Third Cav., U. S. Army, Aide-de-Camp.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, VA., *May* 4, 1864.

Colonel PURINGTON,
Second Ohio Cavalry, Ingalls' Station:

General Burnside directs that you will march with your command at 4 a. m., taking the beef-cattle with you; take the Brandy Station road to Germanna Ford, and report to General Burnside there.

F. VAN VLIET,
First Lieut., Third Cav., U. S. Army, Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that scout sent out on the first road leading to the right from Germanna Ford went as far as Barnett's Mill, at or near Mine Run, found the enemy's infantry pickets. Also the scout sent out on the second road leading to the right went

to within one-half mile of Robertson's Tavern, found a small force of the enemy's cavalry on picket. It was also reported that a brigade of rebel infantry was sent down to Barnett's Mill or Mine Run yesterday.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Old Wilderness Tavern, May 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I have established my headquarters for the night on the north side of Old Wilderness Tavern and Orange Run, 500 or 600 yards to the east of the main plank road, on a side road cutting main road near Omber's Mine. Orderlies are stationed at the crossing or turn off with the corps flag.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—I should like to be informed to-night of the probable movement of troops to-morrow, and the points at which the different headquarters of the army and corps will be.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that in view of the large force of cavalry (rebel) reported at Fredericksburg, that you camp your division to-night within easy supporting distance of the infantry of the Second Corps that supports you.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864.

General GREGG:

General Torbert will join you in the morning with his command.

Respectfully,

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR ORDERS, No. 31.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE,
SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Aldrich's, May 4, 1864.

The horses of this command will be unsaddled and groomed by squadron, and immediately after saddled again. The men will be permitted to unpack and slacken the girths during the night; their arms must be kept near them. Great care to prevent the building

of large fires will be exercised. At daybreak, 4 a. m., the men will repack the saddles, and stand to horse. In case of an attack, the instructions given to commanding officers to-day will be complied with.

By command of Col. J. Irvin Gregg:

JNO. B. MAITLAND,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD CAV. DIV., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Parker's Store, Va., May 4, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

Chapman' brigade is now here; Bryan close up. Only a few men seen; 1 rebel captured on his way from Gordonsville to Hamilton's Cross-Roads, where his regiment is lying. I send herewith a civilian, Mr. Sime, a citizen of Great Britain. He says he left Orange yesterday 2 p. m. Longstreet's corps lies between there and Gordonsville, part at the latter place; Ewell and Hill about Orange Court-House. Troops well down toward Mine Run, on all the roads, except this one; none on this road nearer than 7 miles to this place. He seems well disposed, and if properly rewarded may give other valuable information. I have sent patrols well out in all directions, but as yet hear of nothing, except few light parties scattered through the by-roads. Mr. Sime thinks no re-enforcements received by Lee since Longstreet's arrival. Beauregard not here. The roads from Old Wilderness Tavern very narrow and sometimes obscure. Distance about 5 miles. Plank road in fine condition. My position a very good one. Will report again soon.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Parker's Store, May 4, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff:

I have executed all orders so far. Be good enough to send instructions for to-morrow. My patrols have been to the Catharpin road. Did not see Gregg, and only 2 of the enemy; also to within 1 mile of Mine Run, on Orange pike, skirmishing with small detachments of the enemy. Patrol to Robertson's Tavern not yet heard from. Am strongly posted, and shall be ready to move at 3.30 a. m. Will send word as soon as I hear from Robertson's again.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

CIRCULAR.*] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1864—5.30.

Brigade commanders will establish well their pickets on the road to the right and left of this place; dismounted men to be well thrown

* This dispatch was captured by a detachment of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia.

out into the woods around the camps, forming one continuous chain. All horses will be saddled and bridled by 8 o'clock to-night, and the command be ready for any emergency, at a minute's notice. Small fires, for cooking purposes only, are allowed in the brush, but not outside.

By command of Brigadier-General Wilson:

L. SIEBERT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Colonel Bryan, commanding First Brigade, will be responsible for the pickets to the front and right of this place. Colonel Chapman, commanding Second Brigade, will be responsible for the pickets to the rear and left.

By command of Brigadier-General Wilson:

L. SIEBERT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEW YORK, *May* 4, 1864.
(Received 4 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

General Stannard, commanding troops in this city and harbor, is ordered to Fort Monroe. Cannot General Peck, just relieved at New Berne, N. C., be sent to me? I need a discreet officer in General Stannard's place.

JNO. A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORTRESS MONROE, *May* 4, 1864.
(Received 1.40 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Your telegram is received this morning. General Gillmore has arrived, but has not yet landed. We understand the order to be on Wednesday, the 4th, at 8 p. m., and it will be obeyed.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 4, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Fort Monroe, Va.:

General Grant's army has crossed the Rapidan.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, *May* 4, 1864.
(Received 4.10 a. m. 5th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Telegram received. Am moving to-night, as ordered. Line not working across the bay; communicate by mail.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Fort Monroe, May 4, 1864.

At the request of the French consul, Monsieur Paul, permission is given for the French ship of war Tisiphone, and the English ship Bidwell, under French charter, to proceed to City Point, if Monsieur Paul so desires, for the purpose of clearing the tobacco already shipped, leaving Fortress Monroe on the 6th instant.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May 4, 1864.*

Major-General GILLMORE,
Gloucester Point:

Having waited for your army corps from Port Royal I am not a little surprised at waiting for you here. Push everything forward.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May 4, 1864.*

Major-General GILLMORE.
Comdg. Tenth Army Corps, Gloucester Point:

How do you proceed in the embarkation?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 4, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatches are received. The troops are about all embarked and everything is going on as well as possible. The last of them will start soon.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May 4, 1864.*

Major-General GILLMORE,
Gloucester Point:

How do you succeed in embarking? Are you all ready? If so, push off your divisions in the order you mean they shall land.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 4, 1864—12 midnight.

Major-General BUTLER:

Two divisions have started. The miserable conveniences for embarking troops have been a cause of great delay. No greater speed could have been made under the circumstances.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Board Transport, May 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division, Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: By direction of the major-general commanding, the following instructions from department headquarters are published for your information and guidance:

FORT MONROE, *May 4, 1864.*

General GILLMORE,
Gloucester Point:

The flag-of-truce boat New York, with rebel prisoners, will be found at City Point. Please instruct all officers and men of your command to hold no communication with her without orders from headquarters department.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., Forty-seventh New York Vols., A. A. A. G.

(Similar copies sent to General Turner and General Ames.)

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Board Transport Arago, May 4, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding First Division, Tenth Army Corps:

General Butler telegraphs to hurry up the movement. Your division will be the last to land, but we will not wait to arrange positions here. Start your division for Fortress Monroe as soon as possible.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Turner.)

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Board Transport Arago, May 4, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding Third Division, Tenth Army Corps:

Start your division to Fortress Monroe as rapidly as possible. Report in person on board the Arago within fifteen minutes if possible. Your division will lead, followed by the Second, but don't wait here.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *May 4, 1864.*

General SMITH:

Let them drop down river and wait until all is loaded.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, *May* 4, 1864.

General W. F. SMITH:

Let steamers leave as fast as loaded.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MAGRUDER, *May* 4, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

I received Colonel Bowen's directions, and everything is going well. The troops have started, but will be halted out of sight of the river in order to distribute ammunition, which is now at Grove Wharf. After 3 o'clock further instructions will find me at Grove Wharf. Should be sent there by orderly direct from Yorktown.

I. J. WISTAR,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Portsmouth, Va., May 4, 1864.

Col. S. P. SPEAR,
Commanding Second Brigade, Cavalry Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that your command hold itself in readiness to march at daylight to-morrow morning, with three days' rations. No transportation will be permitted, except team mules or horses with pack-saddles. Each regiment will be allowed one ambulance for the transportation of a limited supply of medicines and stores. The men will be equipped as lightly as possible and prepared to carry two days' forage. An officer from each regiment will be left to take charge of dismounted men, and to bring forward extra baggage and wagon transportation, as hereafter directed.

I have the honor, colonel, to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

NORFOLK, VA., *May* 4, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER, *Fort Monroe:*

Rebels reported by Admiral Lee to have thirteen launches, each with howitzer, in Cashie River, 300 men in all. We will take care of the canal.

G. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 4, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: Colonel Wardrop, commanding at Roanoke Island, writes me on the 2d instant as follows:

As I informed you yesterday, the rebel ram has possession of the sounds, and is now lying in Alligator River. The gun-boats Sassacus and Wyalusing, in addition to the old fleet, viz, the Miami, Whitehead, Ceres, and survey-boat Seymour, are

lying at anchor off the island. The last four are crippled, however, and at the earnest solicitation of the commander of the fleet, I have the quartermaster's boat Massassoit to assist these boats in case they get ashore or break down when in sight of the ram.

It is needless for me to inform you that I do not at all agree with Colonel Wardrop in thinking the ram "in possession of the sounds" because she happens to be in Alligator River. I have a better opinion of our naval forces, and with due diligence on their part she can do no further damage. I do not share in the fears of many people about the ram. I permit myself, even now, to regard the fall of Plymouth as the result of an accident—the death of Lieutenant-Commander Flusser by the gun that he fired himself; and if one-fourth part of the energy of that lamented officer is displayed by the other commanders, the ram will soon cease to be.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Captain PARKINSON:

I am informed that my pickets have been attacked.

JAMES W. SAVAGE,
Colonel Twelfth Cavalry.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain PARKINSON:

The enemy have artillery and have passed the Gully.

J. W. SAVAGE.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Lieut. WILLIAM M. PRATT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

The attack is in force, I think. The enemy have appeared in sight of Rocky Run. They have either cavalry or mounted infantry. I do not hear a word from Colonel Claassen.

JAMES W. SAVAGE,
Colonel.

OUTPOSTS, *May* 4, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

Can you give me any idea of the enemy's force? How are matters at Rocky Run?

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

We are fighting at Rocky Run. I think the attack is in force. Are you attacked?

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel.

OUTPOSTS, *May* 4, 1864—7 p. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

Your telegram received. No enemy here at all. If Rocky Run is forced, I am flanked; hence let me know when that should happen.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Firing for the present has ceased. I think the attack is in force, but doubt whether the rebels will attempt to carry Rocky Run to-night. If they do will communicate.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel.

OUTPOSTS, *May* 4, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

Please let me know at once when your force is obliged to fall back from Rocky Run. No enemy here yet.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, &c.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864.

Lieut. WILLIAM M. PRATT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Lieutenant Hathaway sent to the right of Rocky Run reports the enemy in strong force on both flanks. Lieutenant Colonel Vought and Major Clarkson think it will be necessary to retreat before night.

JAS. W. SAVAGE.

NEW BERNE, *May* 4, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

We are all on the *qui vive* here. Keep us informed.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864.
(Via Batchelder's Creek. Received 7.45 p. m.)

General PALMER:

The firing has ceased for the present but shells have been thrown a quarter of a mile beyond Rocky Run. I should like instructions. If I am to stay here to-night I ought to have re-enforcements.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel, Twelfth [New York] Cavalry.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieut. WILLIAM M. PRATT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Everything has been quiet for an hour. Our pickets are a few hundred yards beyond Rocky Run. The rebels have thrown shells into and over this camp.

JAS. W. SAVAGE.

NEW BERNE, *May* 4, 1864—8.35 p. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

I have received your last. Keep your men in hand, and harass the enemy as much as possible, if you are forced to retreat. Lieutenant Ward, my aide, will be with you soon, to bring any information. I think it is better not to send any re-enforcements, as our fight must be here. I still think this movement is a feeler, intended to annoy us, but I may be wrong.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864.

General PALMER:

The force that drove in our pickets at Deep Gully consisted of two companies of cavalry, about 150 infantry, and two 10-pounder Parrott guns. At Rocky Run our howitzers stopped them. Our pickets are all in except some infantry that fell back on Red House. The artillery was withdrawn beyond range of our pieces about sundown, and since then everything has been quiet. I think the attack will not be renewed until dawn. Would it not be well to send out a few wagons, say ten, so that no loss of property would ensue if we are driven in? Some additional shell and shrapnel case for our howitzer would be acceptable.

JAS. W. SAVAGE.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 4, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

No fighting nor enemy seen. Still in view of your forces being driven back, I had the Red House forces retire this way. I think a reconnaissance should be made toward morning by you.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding Outposts.

NEW BERNE, *May* 4, 1864—10.40 p. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

It is my impression that there is only a small force in your front, sent to annoy. Colonel Claassen is certain that the rebels have blockaded the Dover road beyond Core Creek. This makes it certain that they are only fearing an attack from us. At daylight tomorrow a section of artillery and a small force of infantry will go out from here on the Trent road to stand by you in case you are obliged to come in. Captain Judson will be with them, and this force will be posted in some advantageous position to protect retreat. I may be wrong; but, as I said before, I think it is only a small force sent to feel us. Captain Webster will send you ten wagons very early in the morning. Don't let them stampede, and we will stand by you from here, and we will be on the lookout for you all the time. One of the wagons will carry 50 rounds of shell and shrapnel for your howitzers.

PALMER,
General.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864.

General PALMER:

Your dispatch received. I shall not retreat, except before a force that I am certain is overwhelming. I think there is no danger of a stampede.

JAS. W. SAVAGE.

BATCHELDER'S CREEK, N. C., *May* 4, 1864.

Captain PARKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I hear that pickets at Pine Tree are being attacked. Please send up a train here.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding at Batchelder's Creek.

BATCHELDER'S CREEK, *May* 4, 1864.

General PALMER,
Commanding:

I have ordered the four companies of the One hundred and fifty-eighth [New York] to fall back this way. I shall send two companies down the railroad below the crossing to watch any force that may come through the old race course. Nothing on my front of the enemy. I cannot think that it is an attack on New Berne. Am, however, ready for any emergency that may arise. Rocky Run should be held long enough for me to fall back.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding.

NEW BERNE, *May* 4, 1864—8.25 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN,
Commanding Outposts:

Your last is received. I think, as you do, that there is a doubt of an attack in force; but we must keep everything alive. Colonel

Savage says that the enemy have thrown shells this side of Rocky Run. Your train has gone out. Let us hold on as long as possible at the outposts, and if it be necessary to fall back, let it be done in order. I will notify Colonel Savage that he must look out for anything that you may send by way of the race course. Keep a good lookout on the Neuse road. Our boats are guarding the river well at the blockade. I will tell Colonel Savage to hold on to Rocky Run as long as possible. I will be at the office to talk with you all night. I think that at daylight we may look out for whatever is to come. Send to General Harland, as he is now in command. We will be together.

PALMER,
General.

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
May 4, 1864—9.50 p. m.

General PALMER:

Your telegram of 9.15 p. m. is received. I am certain that the rebels came down to Core Creek Sunday last, and blockaded the road by felling heavy trees. Upon this was based my telegram of yesterday p. m., saying that New Berne was not now menaced, &c. I have a reconnaissance out now, and if no force is by this time at the Dover Forks, no attack will be made here. I doubt the enemy having any infantry at the Gully, from the fact that my officer of the day saw a cavalryman with carbine stand picket afoot, which would not be done had they infantry. I may be mistaken; but I think it is cavalry, with a howitzer or two.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, &c.

STATION NO. 2, *May* 4, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Pickets driven in at Pine Tree.

MCNARY,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

STATION NO. 2, *May* 4, 1864—5.50 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

A squadron of cavalry have been driven from the Gully by cavalry, and from Pine Tree.

MCNARY,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

STATION NO. 2, *May* 4, 1864—6 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Rebel infantry have passed the Pine Tree.

MCNARY,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 4, 1864—6.10 p. m.

Colonel MCNARY:

Get your command in shape so that you can fall back on this camp in order. If Colonel Savage calls on you for support, give it at once. Ascertain what force the enemy has.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 4, 1864—6.37 p. m.

Colonel MCNARY:

Draw in all your pickets to the Red House, and get ready for any move.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 2, *May* 4, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Colonel Savage cannot call on me for support. Cannot ascertain what force the enemy has in my rear.

MCNARY,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 4, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Colonel MCNARY:

Fall back in good order on this camp immediately.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 4, 1864—6.35 p. m.

Captain PURDY:

The enemy is at Deep Gully. Get your command ready for any emergency.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 4, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Captain PURDY:

Hold yourself so that when you get orders to fall back that you do so on the Washington road. Keep posted of what is going on at the Neuse bridge.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 5, *May* 4, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

I have taken every precaution. I have a scout out; I have sent out extra pickets—3 men to Seine Beach Landing, 3 men and a cor-

poral to Benny's Landing, and I am going to send a patrol out to communicate with the Neuse bridge. If you could send me 3 mounted men I should like to have them, as I am short-handed.

PURDY,
Captain.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 4, 1864—6.20 p. m.

Lieutenant HOLLENBECK,
Neuse Bridge:

Draw in your pickets; the enemy is at Deep Gully with artillery.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 3, *May* 4, 1864—6.20 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Do you wish the pickets all drawn in?

HOLLENBECK,
Lieutenant.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 4, 1864—6.50 p. m.

Lieutenant HOLLENBECK:

Yes; get everything ready as if the enemy had driven you in.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 4, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Lieutenant HOLLENBECK:

Have you any reason to suppose that the enemy is in your front? Let me hear from you.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 3, *May* 4, 1864—7.50 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

I have not. Nothing has been seen or heard.

HOLLENBECK,
Lieutenant.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 4, 1864—11.20 p. m.

Captain GREEN:

Sergeant Ross has gone up the railroad toward Dover Forks, to ascertain if any force is there. Capt. C. G. Smith is on the railroad with his company, near the Tuscarora. I have great confidence in your vigilance. Let me hear from you if anything is heard.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

NEW BERNE, *May* 4, 1864—7.30 p. m.

COMMANDER OF RENO
(Via steamer Lockwood):

We are attacked on the Trent road. Please keep a good lookout.

WARD,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864.

General PALMER:

Captain Clark's report concerning the howitzers was correct. Can you send us two rammers and sponges; also 60 rounds of shrapnel case and 60 rounds of shell. A large fire is reported on the south side of the Trent.

G. F. WARD,
Aide-de-Camp.

FORT GASTON, *May* 4, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General HARLAND,
New Berne:

I understand we are having trouble at Rocky Run. Had I not better remain here until morning?

McCHESNEY,
Colonel.

NEW BERNE, *May* 4, 1864—8.40 p. m.

Colonel McCHESNEY,
Fort Gaston:

Yes.

HARLAND,
General.

[Memorandum by Signal Operator.]

CAMP PALMER, *May* 4, 1864.

At 5.30 p. m. a dispatch was received from the Red House stating that our pickets were driven in at Pine Tree. Quite a number of messages immediately followed, and at 7 p. m. the force at Red House was ordered to fall back in good order to Batchelder's Creek. Sergeant Morrow, in charge of Red House Station, fell back with the column, and reported with his men to Lieutenant Moffatt at Station No. 1.

NEW BERNE SIGNAL STATION,
May 4, 1864—7.40 p. m.

COMMANDER OF FORT GASTON:

We are attacked on the Trent Road. Be vigilant, &c.

W. M. PRATT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 4, 1864—7.50 p. m.

Col. J. JOURDAN,
Commanding Sub-District of Beaufort.

COLONEL: The commanding general directs me to inform you that the enemy, with a force of infantry and artillery, have attacked and driven in our pickets on the Trent road, as far as Rocky Run. How large a force is not as yet known. Look out for your railroad and telegraphic communications. Have every man on the alert.

Respectfully, yours,

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Morehead City, May 4, 1864.

Colonel RIPLEY,
Newport:

The enemy have attacked and driven our troops on the Trent road, with infantry and artillery, as far as Rocky Run. Notify your outposts, and send your cavalry out on the main avenues of approach at once. Keep me well informed of any indications of the approach of the enemy.

J. JOURDAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Old Wilderness Tavern, May 5, 1864.
(Received 7.30 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The enemy have appeared in force on the Orange pike, and are now reported forming line of battle in front of Griffin's division, Fifth Corps. I have directed General Warren to attack them at once with his whole force. Until this movement of the enemy is developed, the march of the corps must be suspended. I have, therefore, sent word to Hancock not to advance beyond Todd's Tavern for the present. I think the enemy is trying to delay our movement, and will not give battle, but of this we shall soon see. For the present I will stop here, and have stopped our trains.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Germanna Ford, May 5, 1864—8.24 a. m.

General MEADE:

Your note giving movement of enemy and your dispositions received. Burnside's advance is now crossing the river. I will have Ricketts' division relieved and advanced at once, and urge Burnside's crossing. As soon as I can see Burnside I will go forward. If any opportunity presents itself for pitching into a part of Lee's army, do so without giving time for disposition.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Major-General WARREN:

I send you the above. Wright is advancing on the Spotswood road. Attack as soon as you can, and communicate, if possible, with Wright.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

A Mr. Wyckoff, a Northern miner, whom I have met and believe to be reliable, has sent me word that a person from Orange Court-House yesterday told him that Breckinridge and Polk had joined Lee. I send you this for what it is worth. Warren is making his disposition to attack, and Sedgwick to support him. Nothing immediate from the front. I think, still, Lee is simply making a demonstration to gain time. I shall, if such is the case, punish him. If he is disposed to fight this side of Mine Run at once, he shall be accommodated.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I ordered General Ricketts to hold the roads leading from the enemy's line to our right flank. I am informed you have ordered him forward as one of Burnside's divisions has arrived. I would suggest Burnside's division relieving Ricketts' on the roads, also a small party of cavalry I have in front of Ricketts. Ricketts having received my order after yours is awaiting your action on this suggestion.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: Warren informs me that Wadsworth and Robinson got into action just in time to meet Wilcox's division (Hill's corps), and drove them handsomely for a mile. I have also just heard from Sedgwick, who reports Wright's right having been vigorously attacked at 8 p. m. The attack handsomely repulsed.

Yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: After conversing with my corps commanders, I am led to believe that it will be difficult, owing to the dense thicket in which

their commands are located, the fatigued condition of the men rendering it difficult to rouse them early enough, and the necessity of some daylight, to properly put in re-enforcements. All these considerations induce me to suggest the attack should not be made till 5 o'clock instead of 4.30. I have ordered it for 4.30, but am of the opinion it will be more likely to be simultaneous if made at 6. Should you permit this change I will advise corps commanders. It appears to be the general opinion among prisoners that Longstreet was not in the action to-day, though expected, and that his position was to be on their right or our left. His force supposed to be about 12,000. He probably will attack Hancock to-morrow. I have notified Hancock to look out for his left, but think it will be well to have Willcox up as soon as possible.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES.
In Field, near Wilderness Tavern, Va., May 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I am directed by the lieutenant-general commanding to say that you may change the hour of attack to 5 o'clock, as he is afraid that if delayed until 6 o'clock the enemy will take the initiative, which he desires specially to avoid. General Burnside is directed to bring up General Willcox's division with his other troops if they can possibly be spared, and will probably bring them.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

W. R. ROWLEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Military Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864.

GENERAL: A man from Wofford's brigade, McLaws' division (General Kershaw commanding division), was taken at 9 this a. m. near the plank road. Says his division came down the plank road this a. m. and filed off to the right of the plank, coming this way. How far he don't know, but his brigade was the last in line. Longstreet has but two divisions. Says his division has not yet been much engaged.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864.

Information has been received that Averell has cut the Tennessee railroad and destroyed a depot of supplies at Dublin; also that General Butler has carried the outer works at Fort Darling and closely invested the garrison.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—8 p. m.

The commanding general directs that you order all train guards, as well as every man of your command capable of bearing arms, to join your troops at the front before daylight to-morrow morning. For the present the trains must be protected by the cavalry, and every man who can shoulder a musket must be in the ranks. You will at once send a staff officer to the chief quartermaster at these headquarters to learn the location of your trains and conduct the train guard to the front.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 5, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General HUNT:

The commanding general directs that you order all the regiments and detachments of heavy artillery, as well as all train guards of your command, to report at these headquarters to yourself before daylight to-morrow morning for service at the front.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General

MAY 5, 1864—7.30 a. m.
(Received 9 a. m.)

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

The enemy are on the Orange pike about 2 miles in front of Wilderness Tavern in some force. Until the matter develops the major-general commanding desires you to halt at Todd's Tavern.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Todd's Tavern, May 5, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt.-Gen., Army of the Potomac:

Received the general's dispatch by Lieutenant Jay at 9 a. m. The leading division had just left Todd's Tavern. I have halted it. It must be a greater distance to Todd's Tavern by the road I came than appears on the map from the time I have been occupied in coming here. Nothing of the enemy. Fifty of their cavalry left here yesterday noon with the notification to the enemy that our army had crossed the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Todd's Tavern, May 5, 1864—9.40 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Your dispatch received. My advance was about 1 mile beyond Todd's Tavern. The Second and Third Divisions are at this place or near. The Fourth Division is where the road from the Furnace to Todd's intersects the Brock road, a regiment to hold the point further up the Brock road where the road on the map leads to the Furnace. The rear division is ordered to halt at the Furnace. The trains are ordered to remain where they are until further orders.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864. (Received 11.40 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK, *Comdg. Second Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you move up the Brock road to the Orange Court-House plank road, and report your arrival at that point and be prepared to move out the plank road toward Parker's Store.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Todd's Tavern, May 5, 1864—11.40 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Just received your dispatch—hour not given. I will execute your instructions to move up the Brock road to the Orange Court-House plank road and report my arrival. Please send me any instructions you may have about holding the road I am now on, in order to cover the movements that follow me. I shall temporarily leave some one at the intersection of the road to Chancellorsville and the Brock road until the Reserve Artillery and the train with the troops pass.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Comdg. Second Corps:*

The enemy's infantry drove our regiment of cavalry from Parker's Store down the plank road, and are now moving down it in force. A. P. Hill's corps is part of it. How much not known. General Getty's division has been sent to drive them back, but he may not be able to do so. The major-general commanding directs that you move out the plank road toward Parker's Store, and, supporting Getty, drive the enemy beyond Parker's Store, and occupy that place and unite with Warren on the right of it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

General Warren at the present time extends from the Orange pike to within 1 mile of the plank road, in direction of Parker's Store.

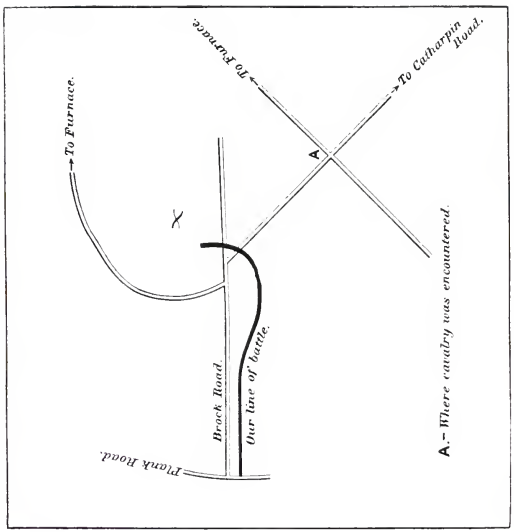
A. A. H.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

The infantry of this corps hold the intersection of the Brock road with road from Furnace. Two small scouting parties of cavalry have connected with my left to-day, but none have been seen on the Brock road. A company 100 strong (infantry) just went out on a cross-road leading to Catharpin road from Brock's and encountered about three-quarters of a mile out 1,000 enemy's cavalry in three lines and one battery. This cavalry may have been a mask. It was near the intersection of roads, as shown on the inclosed sketch. Two companies of infantry are out on the Brock road, but have met nothing. The enemy do not appear yet in force on the plank road. The skirmish line has advanced, say, three-quarters of a mile without strong resistance. Some men wounded. The line is still being pushed out.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.



HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Dispatches sent you by your aide to the effect that the enemy have the Orange plank road nearly to the intersection of the Brock road. Getty is there, but not strong enough to attack. Attack them; Getty will aid you. Griffin has been pushed back by the enemy somewhat on the Orange Court-House pike. Warren's left, General Crawford, was within a mile of Parker's Store, but he may be drawn in or be driven in. Push out on the plank road and connect with Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Wadsworth's division, on Griffin's left, has been driven in, and Crawford's division has been called in so that his line is thrown back considerably. His left must be more than a mile in rear of where it was before. Its exact position is not reported yet; will send you word as soon as it is known.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 5, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have just informed you that Gibbon's division is on its way to reenforce Warren. The rest of Hancock's force is disposed as follows. At "A," on the Catharpin road, is a brigade pushed forward to reconnoiter. When last heard from a battery had opened on him from the other side of Corbin's Bridge, which he had driven in. There is a regiment at "B," on the Brock road. The general line of the corps is indicated by the pencil line extending in front of Todd's Tavern from the Brock road to the Spotsylvania road.

E. R. PLATT,
Major, &c.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—2.40 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatches of 12 m. and 1.30 p. m. just received. I am forming my corps on Getty's left, and will order an advance as soon as prepared. The ground over which I must pass is very bad—a

*Sketch not found. Date of dispatch uncertain.

perfect thicket. I shall [form] two divisions with brigade front. General Getty says he has not heard of Warren's left, probably because he has not advanced far enough.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 5, 1864—3 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch of 2.15 p. m. has just been received. General Getty, in conjunction with two of my divisions, will make an attack soon as troops can get in position. I shall keep one division on their left and keep one division in reserve in rear of advancing divisions. The objective point is Parker's Store.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general directs that Getty attack at once, and that you support him with your whole corps, one division on his right and one division on his left, the others in reserve; or such other disposition as you may think proper, but the attack up the plank road must be made at once.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 5, 1864—2.05 [4.05 p. m.?].

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have just received your order to attack one division on the right and one on the left of General Getty. I had previously made arrangements to attack with two divisions on his left, but as General Getty was going in, I have sent General Mott with him (on his left), and General Birney will go in on his right as soon as possible. He will soon be there.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 5, 1864—5.05 p. m.

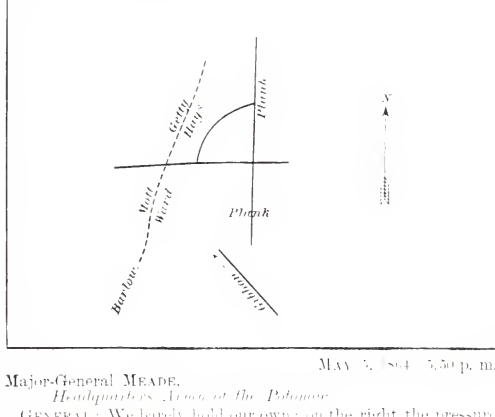
Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: There is a general attack as per diagram. It holds in some places, but is forced back to the Brock road on the left. Gib-

bon is just coming up to go in, and Barlow is to try a diversion on the left; a prisoner of Archer's (Tennessee) division says he was told that Longstreet was to-day on their right.

Respectfully,

THEO. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.



MAY 5, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac.

GENERAL: We barely hold our own; on the right the pressure is heavy. General Hancock thinks he can hold the plank and Brock roads, in front of which he is, but he can't advance.

THEO. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

Fresh troops would be most advisable.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 5, 1864—4.14 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

A new line of fire farther to the left has been heard (skirmishing); an advance of cavalry coming down, the Brock road has been seen. Nothing but skirmishing as yet; not Gibbon had better be prepared to come up if other firing is heard.

WINFD. S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—The signal officer reports that where line of fire was seen first to the left he can observe cavalry, but nothing else.

[NOTE IN PENCIL.]—The original of this dispatch was sent to Major-General Meade by an orderly.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864. (Received 8 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK, *Comdg. Second Corps:*

As soon after dark as all is quiet with you the major-general commanding wishes to see you. The aide will wait and show you the way.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—9 p. m. (Received 10 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

You are required to renew the attack at 4.30 o'clock to-morrow morning, keeping a sharp lookout on your left. Your right will be relieved by an attack made at the same time by General Wadsworth's division and by two divisions of General Burnside's corps.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

General Getty is under your command.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 5, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Col. W. J. Sewell, Fifth New Jersey Volunteers, sent out on the Brock road, has found the cross-road to the Furnaces, and reports that his skirmishers are well out on the Brock road.

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT, *Fourth Division:*

GENERAL: General Hancock directs that you move at once to General Getty's right, putting out your skirmishers, and preparing to move forward with General Getty. General Birney will close to the right to occupy the ground you now hold.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. EXCELSIOR BRIG., FOURTH DIV., SECOND CORPS,
May 5, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Capt. T. W. EAYRE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I have posted the picket as ordered. We connect with General Ward, and on the left with Colonel Smyth, commanding brigade Second Corps.

Very respectfully, yours,

WM. BLAISDELL,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Wilderness Tavern, May 5, 1864—5 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My command is just starting out. As I have but little ways to move I keep my trains with me instead of sending them around by the plank road, which I fear might interfere with the main trains, which I understand to be those to be assembled at Todd's Tavern. I find this morning that General Griffin failed to send a regiment with his wagon train as directed. Where shall I send the regiment to meet the train? The infantry guard I have with the train is about 800; I meant to have 1,200. An officer of pioneers positively failed to execute a very simple order last evening. I propose to make a severe example of him.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 5, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: General Griffin has just sent in word that a force of the enemy has been reported to him coming down the turnpike. The foundation of the report is not given. Until it is more definitely ascertained no change will take place in the movements ordered. Such demonstrations are to be expected, and show the necessity for keeping well closed and prepared to face toward Mine Run and meet an attack at a moment's notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—I will remain at my old headquarters until 7 a. m.

G. K. W.

6.20 A. M.

General Bartlett sends in word that the enemy has a line of infantry with skirmishers out advancing. We shall soon know more. I have arranged for General Griffin to hold the pike until the Sixth Corps comes up, at all events.

MAY 5, 1864—11 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

General Getty has been ordered to move out promptly to Orange plank road and drive the enemy back beyond Parker's Store. They are reported by an officer of the cavalry regiment there to have advanced down the plank road, 1 mile this side, on the Chancellorsville side of Parker's Store.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Comdg. Fifth Corps:*

General Getty is at the crossing of the Brock road. He is skirmishing with the enemy's infantry there, and extending his right toward you—that is, toward the cross-road on which you are. He knows your position on that road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 5, 1864—2.15 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

General Ricketts has been ordered to report to you and will be up immediately. Hancock is up at Orange plank road and will attack immediately. Getty will be brought to your support, if necessary, as soon as Hancock is ready. Hancock will endeavor to connect with your left. Regiment of cavalry is sent.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 5, 1864—3 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

General Wright has connected with General Robinson's right; Ricketts will be put in position to support both.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864. (Received 4 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN, *Comdg. Fifth Corps:*

General Getty is ordered to attack up the Orange plank road, General Hancock to attack with him, one division on his right, the other on his left. The major-general commanding directs that you make dispositions to renew the attack it practicable. General Hancock has just been heard from and will soon attack. The major-general commanding will send you directions when to attack.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

You will have one brigade of Ricketts', besides Robinson and Crawford, who have not been engaged.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 5, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Our signal officers report a heavy column of the enemy's infantry moving in a field this side of the plank road and going toward General Hancock.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 5, 1864—6 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that you renew the attack on the pike immediately. Sedgwick is ordered to renew Wright's attack at once.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

You will be re-enforced during the night by the four battalions of heavy artillery serving with the Artillery Reserve, and a battalion of engineer troops. You are authorized also to withdraw General Robinson with his brigade as soon as General Burnside's troops are in position or nearly so. With this force you will to-morrow, at 4.30 a. m., renew the attack on the Orange Court-House pike, where you attacked to-day.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—11.30 p. m. (Received 12 midnight.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The attack ordered for to-morrow will be made at 5 a. m., instead of 4.30. You will make all your arrangements accordingly and attack punctually at that hour.

By command:

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Sedgwick and Hancock.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 5, 1864—a. m.

Colonel JENKINS,
146th New York, General Officer of Outposts:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that if the pickets have not been withdrawn that they remain out until the column gets well in the road on the line of march.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Indorsement

MAY 5.

COLONEL: The rebel infantry have appeared on the Orange Court-House turnpike and are forming a line of battle, three-quarters of a mile in front of General Griffin's line of battle. I have my skirmishers out, and preparations are being made to meet them. There is a large cloud of dust in that direction.

D. T. JENKINS,
Colonel, Commanding Outposts.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 5, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs you to push a force out at once against the enemy and see what force he has.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
May 5, 1864—7 a. m.

General Bartlett will please execute the within order.
CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 5, 1864—7.20 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that he has directed General Wadsworth to form on your left, so as to cover the roads in that direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 5, 1864—7.50 a. m.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: Have your whole division prepared to move forward and attack the enemy, and await further instructions, while the other troops are forming. Keep us informed of everything going on in your front.

By command of Major-General Warren:
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 5, 1864—8 a. m.

General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that his headquarters for the present will be at Major Lacy's house, where General Crawford stopped last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 5, 1864.

General C. GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: I hear firing on the left of our line. I think it is Sweitzer's line. If General Crawford has moved out we have no connection on the left; in that case the left should be re-enforced. General Warren orders me to keep the skirmish line out until the corps is well under way. The enemy's infantry are forming line of battle on the right and left of the Orange pike. There is a heavy dust in the direction of Robertson's farm, about 1 mile out. I would like a field officer of division to assist me, as I may have to go to some other part of the line.

Respectfully,

D. T. JENKINS,
Colonel and General Officer of Outposts.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., FIFTH CORPS,
May 5, 1864—12 m.

Captain MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The enemy have brought down to their former line one more brigade of infantry. I am ready to advance whenever General Ayres is. I think he is nearly ready.

Very respectfully,

JOS. J. BARTLETT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 5, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General ROBINSON,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you form in line of battle on General Griffin's left, to the extent of one of your brigades, holding the rest to be advanced upon the line, should occasion require. General Wadsworth will connect with your left, and his left will connect with General Crawford's right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 5, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The movement toward Parker's Store is suspended. You will halt, face toward Mine Run, and connect with General Wadsworth on your right. Get your trains to your rear.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ONE MILE FROM PARKER'S STORE, *May* 5, 1864—8 a. m.

Colonel LOCKE, *Assistant Adjutant-General*.

I have advanced to within a mile of Parker's Store. There is brisk skirmishing at the Store between our own and the enemy's cavalry. The general's order is received, and I am halted in a good position.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Comdg. Third Division.

[First indorsement.]

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff*:

The above just received, 9 a. m. General Warren is examining Griffin's front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

MAY 5.

Dispatch from Crawford received. I have sent to Wilson, who, I hope, will himself find out the movement of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE.

MAY 5, 1864. (Received 10.15 a. m.)

Colonel LOCKE:

The enemy are working around to get upon the plank road. No firing at this moment.

CRAWFORD,
General.

MAY 5, 1864. (Received 11.15 a. m.)

Colonel LOCKE:

Shall I abandon the position I now hold to connect with General Wadsworth, who is about a half a mile on my right; he having moved up to connect with Griffin? The Fifth Cavalry not yet joined Colonel McEntee.

CRAWFORD,
General.

MAY 5, 1864.

General CRAWFORD:

You will move to the right as quickly as possible.

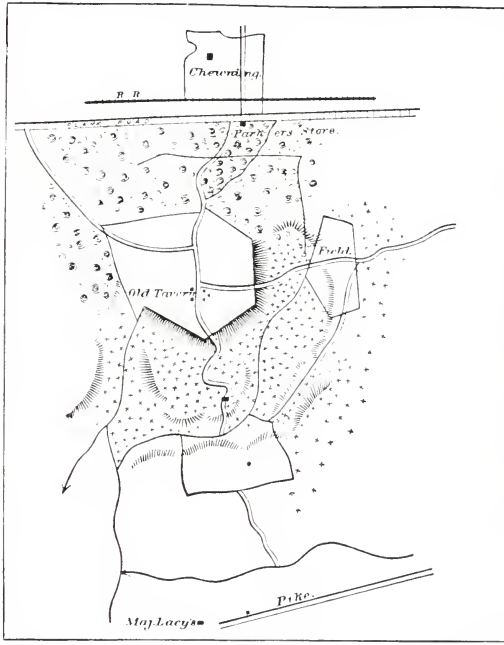
G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 5, 1864.

General WARREN:

It is of vital importance to hold the field where General Crawford is. Our whole line of battle is turned if the enemy get possession of it. There is a gap of half a mile between Wadsworth and Crawford. He cannot hold the line against an attack.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.



MAY 5, 1864. (Received 11.30 a. m.)

Colonel LOCKE:

Firing has ceased in my front, excepting occasional shots. It is reported that the enemy are passing up the plank road in my rear. Our cavalry have returned on that road. I have sent to the plank road to determine the accuracy of the report.

CRAWFORD,
General.

MAY 5, 1864—11.50 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

You must connect with General Wadsworth, and cover and protect his left as he advances.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 5, 1864—12 m.

Colonel LOCKE:

The connection with Wadsworth is being made. The enemy hold the plank road and are passing up.

CRAWFORD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 5, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General WADSWORTH,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The movement toward Parker's Store is suspended for the present. You will halt, face toward Mine Run, and make your connection with General Griffin on your right.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 5, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General WARREN:

The rebel skirmish line is about 1 mile from the field. I think they have tried Wadsworth's left. I will bear down to the left until I find him.

MORRIS SCHAFF,
Lieutenant of Ordnance.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
May 5, 1864—8.30 a. m.

[General CHARLES GRIFFIN?]:

GENERAL: I find an opening and tolerable position for artillery about 1¼ miles from Lacy's house. I am at that point with two batteries and one brigade. Have a brigade stretched thinly through a piece of very thick woods, and one brigade near you.

Your obedient servant,

JAS. S. WADSWORTH.

Crawford's troops in front, rear in sight.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 5, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General WADSWORTH:

GENERAL: Push forward a heavy line of skirmishers, followed by your line of battle, and attack the enemy at once and push him.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

General Griffin will also attack. Do not wait for him, but look out for your own left flank.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 5, 1864—6.20 p. m.

General WARREN:

I have the honor to report that up to this time, 6.20 p. m., Wadsworth has been driving the enemy. They have opened batteries with canister on him. He is receiving support from Sixth Corps.

E. B. COPE,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—12.15 p. m. (Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General SEDGWICK,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that Ricketts' division be kept on the plank road midway between Spotswood and Old Wilderness Tavern, so that he may be sent to the support of either Wright or Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 5, 1864—11.30 p. m.

This division will move forward and attack the enemy promptly at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow. The signal for advance will be given by the bugle; but should the signal not be heard, brigade commanders will move forward when troops on their right and left move. Brigade commanders will see that their commands have a full supply of ammunition to-night. Shaler's brigade will act as reserve of the division.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILDERNESS TAVERN, *May 5*—5.30 a. m.

General GETTY:

I shall leave General Griffin's division to hold the pike toward Robertson's Tavern; at least one brigade of which will not move till you arrive, or the division leading your corps.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 5, 1864—12.15 p. m.

General SEDGWICK:

We have encountered a line of infantry skirmishers half a mile out on the Orange Court-House plank road. One sergeant captured, who says he belongs to Cooke's brigade, Heth's division. Can get nothing more from him.

G. W. GETTY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Have taken another man. He reports Cooke's brigade 2 miles back. Enemy's skirmish line has fallen back. I shall advance.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 5, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General SEDGWICK:

Hill's corps is reported on this road, Heth's division in advance. Have taken several more prisoners, wounded men.

GEO. W. GETTY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General GETTY,
Commanding Division, Sixth Corps:

You will report immediately for duty with your division to Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps.

By command:

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General RICKETTS:

The major-general commanding directs that you report immediately with the brigade under your command to Major-General Sedgwick.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

RAPPAHANNOCK, VA., *May* 5, 1864—12.07 a. m.
(Received 2 a. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

I want General Parke very much, but I know of no way for him to get here unless an extra train is sent. Some 60,000 rations for one of the brigades was carried off by the cars through mistake. If they could be sent at once on a train under strong guard General Parke could come with it. It is of the utmost importance that the 60,000 rations be sent to this place to-night.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 5, 1864.

M. J. MCCRICKETT,
Alexandria:

Some 60,000 rations were sent back from Rappahannock by mistake. They belonged to Burnside's supplies. Do you know where they are? They are needed by General Burnside. If you get prompt orders to send them out, can they be sent out between this and daylight? General Parke wishes to go out with this train.

JAS. A. HARDIE.

WASHINGTON CITY, *May* 5, 1864—5.10 a. m.

M. J. MCCRICKETT,
Alexandria:

General Parke will be ready in three-quarters of an hour and at the Maryland avenue depot. He will go at least to Alexandria and determine there what further to do. Send a locomotive for him.

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Colonel, &c.

MAY 5, 1864—5.45 a. m.

M. J. MCCRICKETT,
Alexandria:

What train do you allude to as going to start to the front? Have you found the cars with Burnside's rations that were sent back by mistake, and is that the train you allude to? If so, no orders have been given for that to start yet. Has there any escort reported to you? I have sent to hurry up General Parke.

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Colonel, &c.

MAY 5, 1864—6.10 a. m.

M. J. MCCRICKETT,
Alexandria:

If General Burnside has ordered it, let the train start when ready. General Parke must overtake the train at Rappahannock. He can get there by the time the cars are unloaded and in the wagons.

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Germanna Ford, May 5, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that all your baggage and supply trains not immediately needed with your command cross the Rapidan at Ely's Ford and join the trains of the Army of the Potomac. As soon as you can dispense with the pontoon bridge at Ely's Ford you will have it rejoin the Army of the Potomac.

Very respectfully,

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Germanna Ford, May 5, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Place one division of your corps on the ridge south of the river and west or southwest of the plank road. Leave it there until your entire command is over, then close up as rapidly as pos-

sible with the Sixth Corps, following the Fredericksburg plank road. As your troops cross they can either pass the first division that crosses, or may take the place of that division and let it pass on out of the way, as you may choose.

Yours,

U. S. GRANT.
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY,
Near Wilderness Tavern, May 5, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that you consult with General Ricketts and relieve the two brigades he has moved from the plank road toward Mine Run, and which were to move out about a mile and hold the roads. You should send some cavalry out in front of your two brigades. The general desires that you should then mass your command about a mile this side of Germanna Ford, on the plank road, and await orders.

C. B. COMSTOCK.
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 5, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: General Grant desires that all stores and forage at Brandy Station, not required by you be sent to Alexandria, if possible; if not, to be destroyed, and all forces there to join their commands, following Ferrero's division to the Rapidan.

Respectfully,

WM. CUTTING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

WILDERNESS TAVERN, *May 5, 1864—3 p. m.*

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Lieutenant-General Grant directs that if General Sedgwick calls on you, you will give him a division.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
May 5, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding:

General Stevenson was placed in position by an aide from your headquarters, and General Willcox was placed in accordance with your order this morning. General Potter's division will soon be up, and I will hold him subject to General Sedgwick's request.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY,
Wilderness Tavern, May 5, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Lieutenant-General Grant understands that you guard the roads which Ricketts was on this morning, and in addition have sent a division to support Sedgwick's right. He desires that you at once move your third white division to this place.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Wilderness Tavern, May 5, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that you start your two divisions at 2 a. m. to-morrow, punctually, for this place. You will put them in position between the Germanna plank road and the road leading from this place to Parker's Store, so as to close the gap between Warren and Hancock, connecting both. You will move from this position on the enemy beyond at 4.30 a. m., the time at which the Army of the Potomac moves.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

If you think there is no enemy in Willcox's front, bring him also.

C. B. C.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
In the Field, near Wilderness Tavern, Va., May 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: If you do not consider that your Reserve Artillery would be safe left where it now is, you will have it brought in this direction to a safe place and parked, otherwise let it remain where it is, as there is not room for it at this point.

By command of Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant:

W. R. ROWLEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Military Secretary.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 5, 1864.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the following as the number of men of this division present for duty this evening:

First Brigade, 2,250 muskets; Second Brigade, 1,200 muskets; total, 3,450.

The Ninth New Hampshire and Thirty-Second Maine, from the Second Brigade, have not come up; will probably be here in the

morning. Five companies of the same brigade (Eleventh New Hampshire) are guarding the baggage and ammunition train. The Seventh Rhode Island, of the First Brigade, is guarding the supply train.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Rappahannock Station, May 5, 1864—2 a. m.

General A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have received your order to march direct to Germanna Ford. You are aware that I am perfectly ignorant of the route. I suppose you do not intend for me to go by Brandy Station. I will start a messenger immediately down the river road to make inquiries.

Very respectfully, yours,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 5 1864—10.30 p. m.

Colonel HARTRANFT,
Commanding First Brigade:

SIR: General Burnside is very anxious to ascertain if the enemy are in your front. The brigadier-general commanding desires you to let him know anything you have heard or seen that is likely to indicate the presence or absence of any force. Please let the general know by return of bearer.

Truly, your obedient servant,

L. C. BRACKETT,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Catlett's Station, May 5, 1864—5 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have to report that my command left Manassas at 6 p. m. last evening. Owing to bad roads and the dark night have but just managed to get my train and command at this place. Cannot leave here before 9 o'clock. Will move as far as possible to-day. Will send word to the other commands as directed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDW. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

RAPPAHANNOCK, *May* 5, 1864.

General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division:

The general commanding directs that you push on your force as rapidly as possible to Germanna Ford, and follow the column from there.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Rappahannock, May 5, 1864.

Lieut.-Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: My command is in camp at Mountain Run, having made 30 miles in twenty-four hours; am unable to go farther to-night. Will leave here at dawn of day. If you have any instructions please send by the bearer.

Very respectfully,

EDW. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

The Ninth New Hampshire is in my rear. All others of the Ninth Corps have gone forward.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
May 5, 1864.

General FERRERO:

A dispatch has just been sent to you directing you to march on at once and cross the bridge. It is of the utmost importance that you should move at once; also send in an aide by the orderly who goes with this to report here for instructions. If your previous instructions have been received, and an aide has left in accordance with them, it will, of course, be unnecessary to send another.

Very respectfully,

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Piney Branch Church, Va., May 5, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your dispatch received. I have ordered General Gregg's division, via Catharpin road and Todd's Tavern, to Grove Church, and directed him to open communication with General Wilson, who was ordered to Craig's Church in your order of last night. I will hold General Torbert's division in front of Chancellorsville to cover our trains and support Gregg. General Torbert has just come up; he was delayed by the trains.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The enemy's cavalry in strong force attacked General Wilson at Craig's Church. I sent General Gregg out to his support. General Gregg is now driving the enemy in the direction of Craig's Church. Everything is going on very well.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to acknowledge receipt of dispatch of General Gregg of 2.45 p. m. If Gregg's and Wilson's divisions are compelled to fall back, the commanding general directs that you cover our left flank and protect the trains as much as possible. The left flank at present rests at the intersection of the Brock road with the Orange plank road, the line extending to Germanna Ford. The infantry has been heavily pressed to-day along the whole line. If you gain any information that leads you to conclude that you can take the offensive and harass the enemy without endangering the trains, you are at liberty to do so.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Chancellorsville, May 5, 1864—11.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that General Wilson was attacked to-day at Craig's Meeting-House. At first he drove the enemy on the Catharpin road for some distance, then they drove him back to Todd's Tavern, where he was joined by General Gregg's command. General Gregg attacked the enemy and drove them back to Beach Grove, distance about 4 miles. I cannot do anything with the cavalry, except to act on the defensive, on account of the immense amount of material and trains here and on the road to Ely's Ford. Had I moved to Hamilton's Crossing early this morning the enemy would have ruined everything. Why cannot infantry be sent to guard the trains and let me take the offensive? The casualties of the Second and Third Divisions to-day are between 50 and 60.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
Todd's Tavern, May 5, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Col. J. W. FORSYTH, *Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:*

The regiment sent to Fredericksburg went there and found no enemy. The party sent on the old Mine road came upon the rear guard of two brigades of rebel cavalry moving from Hamilton's Crossing to Massaponax Church. I find here everything; infantry, and Chapman's brigade on the rear of the infantry. General Wilson is falling back to this point, followed by the enemy. Colonel Chapman reports the enemy that attacked very superior to his [force] and compelled him to retire. General Wilson has not yet arrived, and I can't say what I will do. The infantry (Second Corps) are moving on the Brock road. I have my command here and will receive the enemy.

D. M. M. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Chancellorsville, May 5, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for information of major-general commanding.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

I have ordered General Custer's brigade to move out on the road by the Furnaces until he reaches a point where that road intersects the Brock road. He will then report to you. At the point where he takes position there was a brigade of infantry of the Second Corps, but it has been moved. I will order General Wilson's division back to this place very early in the morning so that it may get ammunition, subsistence, and forage. I will then relieve the other brigades of the First Division and make them available should you be attacked. The right of the infantry line rests at the intersection of the Brock road with the Orange plank road, the line extending to Germanna Ford. There has been a great deal of heavy firing on the infantry lines this p. m., but everything is going right.

By command of Major-General Sheridan:

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Parker's Store, May 5, 1864—5 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

In accordance with orders received yesterday my command is in motion toward the Catharpin road. My pickets report nothing new from the enemy this morning.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, *May* 5, 1864—9 p. m.
(Via Fortress Monroe 11.30 a. m. 6th.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

We have seized Wilson's Wharf, landing a brigade (Wild's colored troops) there; Fort Powhatan, landing two regiments of same brigade. Have landed at City Point Hinks' division of colored troops, remaining brigades, and batteries. Remainder of both Eighteenth and Tenth Army Corps are now being landed at Bermuda Hundred, above the Appomattox. No opposition thus far. Apparently a complete surprise. Both army corps left Yorktown during last night. Monitors all over the bar at Harrison's Landing and above City Point. The operations of the fleet have been conducted to-day with energy and success. Generals Smith and Gillmore, with the army gun-boats, led the advance during the night, capturing the signal stations of the rebels. Colonel West, with 1,800 cavalry, made demonstration from Williamsburg yesterday morning. General Kautz left Suffolk this morning with 3,000 cavalry for the service indicated in conference with the lieutenant-general. The New York flag-of-truce boat, was found lying at the wharf with 400 rebel prisoners, which she had not had time to deliver. She went up yesterday morning. We are landing the troops during the night—a hazardous service in the face of the enemy.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Board Transport, James River, May 5, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieut. Col. C. E. FULLER,
Chief Quartermaster Tenth Army Corps:

The transport Monohansett will report at once to the major-general commanding Tenth Corps in James River.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred, May 5, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Third Division, Tenth Army Corps:

The right division of the Eighteenth Corps, General Smith informs me, is to be formed in columns of division, but not with deploying intervals. For to-night you will make the same disposition of your command on the right of the Eighteenth Corps, if there is room. If not, fill up the interval between the right of the Eighteenth Corps and James River, holding the balance of your command in reserve.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Board Transport Metamora, May 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. GODFREY WEITZEL,
Comdg. Second Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to send you the following instructions: You will move your command promptly at daybreak to-morrow, marching by the flank, the left in front, to the point where the road crosses the creek, at which point you will form your column closed en masse, then deploy in echelon, the right refused. Your whole force will be disposed in two lines, the left battalion resting with its right on the road leading to your left, and the next battalion with its left on this road with skirmishers to the front.

General Brooks will form column of battalion closed en masse, the head of the column in echelon with your line. The skirmishers will connect with yours. This will be the order of march to the point indicated. Should any artillery arrive, it will be distributed according to circumstances.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PORTSMOUTH, *May 5, 1864.*

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: General Kautz, commanding cavalry, requests me to inform you that he is moving, and will pass through Suffolk about noon.

VODGES,
General, Commanding.

Captain Ashby, of Battery E, Third New York Artillery, four 3-pounder Parrotts, reports that his guns have gone with but 1 officer and a few men; no horses.

H. T. SCHROEDER.

NORFOLK, *May 5, 1864.*
(Received 12 m.)

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Kautz has moved. I need more cavalry for picket duty. Can you send me any cavalry? Please have Colonel Dutton, Twenty-first Connecticut, sent to his regiment. Want him to command intrenched camp at Portsmouth.

G. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Told him there was no cavalry. Colonel Dutton on staff of General Smith.

MAY 5, 1864. (Received 8.30 a. m.)

General HINKS:

On Board Steamer Mattano:

Crowd on all steam, and hurry up.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
General.

GREYHOUND, OFF NEWPORT NEWS,
May 5, 1864—4 a. m.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

ADMIRAL: I think that the gun-boats had better proceed at once. Owing to delays it has been impossible to get my boats off as they were ordered. I will remain behind and bring up the rear.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 5, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Admiral LEE:

Has the channel been dragged for torpedoes?

HINKS,
General.

MAY 5, 1864. (Received 3.35 p. m.)

General HINKS:

The channel has been searched as far as City Point.

LEE,
Admiral.

Memorandum by signal operator.

MAY 5, 1864.

Landed at City Point, Va., at 4 p. m., and took possession of a rebel signal station, capturing three torches, two flags, and several gallons of turpentine.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 5, 1864.

Capt. M. SMITH, U. S. Navy:

CAPTAIN: Yours of the 4th I received this morning, and from it alone I feel perfectly assured that we have nothing to fear from the ram. I have just heard that you are in need of some supplies for your fleet, and I have requested the fast and fastest steamer we have here to take them up to you as soon as the quartermaster can get them ready. Contrary to the usual custom, the steamer will not be ordered to report to the quartermaster at Roanoke, but she will be sent direct to you, and I will be much obliged to you if you will permit her to

return immediately. We are now being harassed some by the enemy, and I think they have cut off our communication with Morehead City. However, I still think it is merely a raid on the railroad, and even if we are cut off for a few days we can hold our own. It is my firm belief that all the available rebel forces have been called to Virginia, but I may be mistaken. I hope Mr. King's torpedoes may be a success, and that they will do service. Please inform me always if there is anything I can do to assist the fleet.

I remain, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 5, 1864.

Col. J. JOURDAN,
Commanding Sub-District of Beaufort

COLONEL: This morning our communication with you was cut off by the enemy, who gained possession of the railroad. I regard this as merely a raid, and something which is likely to occur at any time. I hope you have been able to hold your own at Morehead, and that this may be only a temporary interruption. The rebels have to-day established their forces, some batteries included, on the railroad within 2 miles of the Trent River, but I have no fears from them. If you will only keep them off for three days I can assure you that you will be relieved from the present pressure. Ask the naval commander to assist you with his gun-boats, and we will be all right in a few days. This present demonstration of the enemy is only a raid in my opinion, for I think all their forces are called to Virginia. I will send you the First North Carolina and some other reenforcements very soon. Don't let your people get stampeded. It is all right if you will only hold on for three or four days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

[Memorandum by signal operator.]

CAMP PALMER, *May 5, 1864.*

At daybreak Lieutenant-Colonel McNary returned to Red House with his command, and Sergeant Morrow with his men was ordered to accompany him and reopen the signal station at that point. Private Polly, from Station No. 5 (Beech Grove), reported to New Berne for duty.

STATION NO. 1, *May 5, 1864—7.40 a. m.*

Captain PURDY:

You can resume your ordinary tours and use your usual vigilance. Your actions have been very satisfactory to me last night. As soon as possible return those extra cavalry to these headquarters.

By command of Colonel Classen:

J. M. LOGAN,
Assistant.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 5, 1864—4.45 a. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

A careful reconnaissance beyond Dover Forks shows no enemy. What is news with you? If you have one or two daring men, they should and could go out carefully and give you information.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding Outposts.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 5, 1864—5.15 a. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

I have sent an infantry force and some cavalry to the Red House. Will inform you of what they meet, if anything.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding Outposts.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 5, 1864—5.45 a. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Everything has been quiet during the night. The enemy retired early in the evening. A reconnaissance in force has just gone out. I have just returned from the front, where I left Colonel Savage.

VOORHIT,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 5, 1864—5.45 a. m.

Captain GREEN:

Capt. Charles G. Smith, with Companies B, E, and C, will relieve your company (D), and also Captain Gillen's. They will be with you soon.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 5, 1864—6.10 a. m.

Lieut. WILLIAM M. PRATT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

A few dismounted men sent out about 1 this p. m. report that the enemy had retired from our immediate front at dawn. Three squadrons and howitzer sections went out. I have heard nothing from them. Please inform General Palmer that Lieutenant Ward accompanied the scouts.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel Twelfth [New York] Cavalry.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 5, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Captain SMITH,
Commanding Nuse Bridge:

The colonel directs that you re-establish the picket-line soon as you can cross the bridge.

WELLS,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

STATION NO. 3, *May* 5, 1864—8 a. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Dispatch received. The picket-line has been established for an hour. Everything quiet.

SMITH,
Captain.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 5, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Capt. C. G. SMITH:

Dispatch received. Send a small party to scout up the Neuse road a short distance, and when they return bring your command into camp, leaving the front guarded the same as it was before this event occurred.

By command of Col. P. J. Claassen:

J. M. LOGAN,
Adjutant.

STATION NO. 3, *May* 5, 1864—9 a. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Dispatch received. Will send out immediately. All the posts are reestablished except the cavalry vedettes and reserve. I have no cavalry here except two messengers. Cavalry cannot cross at this point.

SMITH,
Captain.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 5, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Captain SMITH:

The cavalry will be sent out by the railroad at once.

J. M. LOGAN,
Adjutant.

NEW BERNE, *May* 5, 1864—10.05 a. m.

Col. J. W. SAVAGE:

I am directed to say for your information that the enemy have appeared on the railroad to threaten probably our communication with Morehead City. All quiet across the Neuse. Keep a strict watch on the Trent road.

W. L. WHEATON,
Aide-de-Camp.

STATION NO. 2, *May* 5, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

A cavalry officer from the Gully sends me word to fall back.

McNARY,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 2, *May* 5, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

I have just returned from Pine Tree and Deep Gully. Both of these posts are entirely deserted.

GERATY,
Captain.

STATION NO. 2, *May* 5, 1864—11 a. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

I am at Red House. I shall not leave till forced or ordered by you. I will keep pickets on the Pine Tree road. Will draw in the pickets on the road to burnt church. I have heard no firing. I think it is only a cavalry scare.

JONES,
Captain, Officer of the Day.

NEW BERNE, *May* 5, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

I think the demonstration on the railroad is by a small force of cavalry and infantry for the purpose of interrupting our communications. Please keep a sharp lookout to-night, however.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 5, 1864—5.25 p. m.

Captain PURDY:

The colonel desires you to make the same precautions to-night with the extra posts, and patrol the road below your camp, as you did last night.

WELLS,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 5, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieut. WILLIAM M. PRATT,
New Berne:

A reconnoitering party this a. m. found the enemy at Deep Gully. Another this afternoon struck their pickets at the Pollockville Forks. My pickets now extended to the Gully. I have sent no verbal message to town, and no message of any kind to say, indicating, or hinting that I had been attacked or expected to retreat.

JAS. W. SAVAGE.

FORT GASTON SIGNAL STATION,
May 5, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Colonel AMORY:

Courier from Evans' Mill reports the enemy driving our pickets at 7.30. Artillery firing is heard in that direction at this hour, 9.30. I have sent to the front to ascertain more.

McCHESNEY,
Colonel.

FORT GASTON, *May* 5, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Colonel AMORY,
New Berne:

The commanding officer at Evans' Mill reports the enemy getting in his rear. Have ordered him to fall back. A force of the enemy has gone toward the railroad.

McCHESNEY,
Colonel.

NEW BERNE, *May* 5, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Colonel McCHESNEY,
Fort Gaston:

Try to communicate with Croatan and inform them of what has occurred.

HARLAND,
General.

FORT GASTON SIGNAL STATION,
May 5, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain POTTER,
Commanding Fort Spinola:

Keep a strict lookout on your front, and have everything in readiness. Our pickets have been driven in from Evans' Mill. Do not fire on the company coming from Evans' Mill.

By order of Colonel Amory:

F. H. FAILEY,
In charge of Station.

FORT GASTON SIGNAL STATION,
May 5, 1864—11.20 a. m.

General HARLAND:

Captain Graham from Evans' Mill reports our force at that place retreating this way. The enemy passed on toward Croatan, which has probably been attacked ere this.

AMORY,
Colonel.

WILDERNESS TAVERN,
May 6, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

We have been engaged with the enemy in full force since early yesterday. So far there is no decisive result, but I think all things are progressing favorably. Our loss to this time I do not think exceeds 8,000, of whom a large proportion are slightly wounded. Brigadier-General Hays was killed yesterday, and Generals Getty and Bartlett wounded. We have taken about 1,400 prisoners. Longstreet's, A. P. Hill's and Ewell's corps are all represented among the prisoners taken.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—6 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Sedgwick and Warren are engaged; have been since 5 a. m. No news from Hancock. Would it not be well for Burnside's cavalry to watch our extreme right by the fords, letting them go out on all the roads toward the enemy; and if enough can be spared to cross the river, they might scout on the other side.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY,
May 6—6.10 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that you adopt General Meade's suggestion.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Sedgwick has just reported the enemy having vigorously assaulted his line and turned his right flank. I have sent the Pennsylvania Reserves to him. Will report when more is heard.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

Another officer just reported that Sedgwick's whole line has given way.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieut. MORRIS SCHAFF,
Ordnance Officer:

The commanding general directs that you return with your party and dispatches to these headquarters, the orders directing the procuring of an additional supply of ammunition having been recalled.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SIGNAL STATION—10.05 a. m.

Captain TAYLOR:

A rebel skirmish line just made its appearance and fired a few shots in the edge of the woods in front of me.

THICKSTUN.

[Indorsement.]

MAY 6, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of commanding general. Captain T. is at house on left of our line.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—7 a. m.

The question of ammunition is an important one. The major general commanding directs that every effort be made to economize the ammunition, and the ammunition of the killed and wounded be collected and distributed to the men. Use the bayonet where possible.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—9 a. m.

Corps commanders will have one-half of the ammunition wagons of their command emptied of their contents and the ammunition issued to the troops without delay. The empty wagons will be turned over by the quartermaster to the chief quartermaster of the army at these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 6, 1864—5.40 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Hancock went in punctually, and is driving the enemy handsomely. Some prisoners. Nothing from Longstreet. Hancock has a rifle-pit on left to be ready for him, and scouts out. Birney has joined with Wadsworth.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—5.40 a. m.

[General A. A. HUMPHREYS?:]

GENERAL: We have driven the enemy from their position, and are keeping up the plank road, connected with Wadsworth, taking quite a number of prisoners. My attack is being made with three divisions on both sides of the plank road.

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

The prisoners appear to belong to Heth's and Wilcox's divisions so far as I have questioned them.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 6, 1864—6.20 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The left of our assault has struck Longstreet; 2 prisoners just in; sharp musketry. Longstreet is filing to the south of the plank road—our left; how far not yet developed. Gibbon and Barlow hold our left in reserve. Gibbon is just notified of Longstreet's presence by General Hancock. Our second line has advanced.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

Hancock's dispatch inclosed.* Our advance is over 2 miles out. General Birney has taken one line of pits and several colors.

MAY 6, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Hancock requests that Burnside may go in as soon as possible. As General Birney reports, we about hold our own against Longstreet, and many regiments are tired and shattered.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Old Wilderness Tavern, May 6, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch is received informing the major-general commanding of the presence of Longstreet's force. I am directed to say that the only reserve force of the army (one division of the Ninth Corps) is here, and will be ordered to your support, should it become absolutely necessary. Call for it, therefore, only in case of the last necessity.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—7.10 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch just received, informing me that I can have a division from Burnside in case of absolute necessity. They are pressing us on the road a good deal. If more force were here now I could use it; but I don't know whether I can get it in time or not. I am filling up the boxes of the men who are returning, and re-establishing my lines, closing up with right. Barlow is putting in a brigade

*Ante, 5.40 a. m.

on the enemy's right flank, and I will follow it up, if necessary, and have so directed. Am collecting the men near the plank road and issuing ammunition.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—7.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

A rebel deserter from Longstreet has just come in, and says he belongs to the right regiment of the enemy's line and of Longstreet's corps. He came in immediately in front of my left, where my artillery is placed, and he says that is the end of their line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

Dispatch in relation to ammunition received.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864. (Received 8 a. m.)

General HANCOCK:

General Wadsworth, with 5,000 on Birney's right is directed to take your orders. Two of Burnside's divisions have advanced nearly to Parker's Store, and are ordered to attack to their left, which will be your front. They ought to be engaged now, and will relieve you. Our only reserve is Burnside's third division, yet here, and I don't want to send it, if possible.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 6, 1864—7.27 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

General Birney has just taken a line of rifle-pits in his front. Webb, who went in a short time since, is doing very well. The fire is very heavy, but not gaining; wounded returning on plank road. General Hancock strongly urges that the troops on his right should do their utmost. Down the plank road all seems to be going well. 7.35, the firing is slackening and our men cheer. 7.40, the firing is heaviest on the right of the plank road; our men cheering again.

WOOLSEY,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 6, 1864—8 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

Prisoner told Captain Sleeper, of the artillery, that he (the prisoner) was from General Hardee's corps. Captain Sleeper told this to Colonel Morgan, chief of staff, Second Corps.

W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

An examination of all the prisoners is now being made to ascertain the corps to which they belong.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, *May* 6, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Major-General MEADE, *Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: General Wadsworth has now only about 2,000 for duty. General Stevenson is moving along the plank road to support, &c. General Hancock has ordered the attack to be at once pressed, especially on the right and center. He thinks the enemy either drawing off or else massing on, perhaps, his left. There is a lull. Two squads of prisoners from Longstreet have been recently taken. Troops behave steadily; no straggling.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Comdg. Second Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Sheridan has been directed to make an attack with a division of cavalry on Longstreet's flank and rear by the Brock road. General Sheridan received the order at Chancellorsville at 8 o'clock.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 9.15 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK, *Comdg. Second Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that Colonel Comstock has gone out to General Burnside to point out to him where to attack the enemy on or near the plank road. He directs that you attack at the same time with Burnside.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 6, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: General Bartlett's brigade is close in now. We are heavily engaged on the right; Bartlett will go in on right. A few of Mott's men have come back; not many.

T. LYMAN,
Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 6, 1864—9.30 a. m.
(Received 9.45 a. m.)

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

I send you a dispatch just received from Major Platt.* The major-general commanding directs that you make immediate disposition to check this movement of the enemy across and through General Warren's left.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—We have no troops to spare here.

* See Platt to Humphreys, 9.05 a. m., p. 451.

MAY 6, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,

Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Second Brigade, of Stevenson's division, has gone to strengthen General Gibbon's left. General Burney will detach from his right to drive back the enemy at the gap left by the brigade of Cutler. Artillery, if heard on our left, will be from Gibbon, whose skirmishers are now being pressed back.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—9.50 a. m. (Received 10.10 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,

Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch of 9.35 is received. The recalling of the dispatch to you was not intended to stop your simultaneous attack with Burnside, but to prevent your delaying your attack for Burnside. Your dispatch saying you were about attacking was received just after that about attacking simultaneously with Burnside was sent to you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

I gave instructions this morning for the advance of my entire line to coincide with that taken up by General Owen. I now understand that it is the intention to throw General Owen farther forward; if so, it is my desire to have my line advanced at the same time. It is possible that my people may take advantage of the skirmish line ordered this morning for the advance of the whole line. Please let me know what your intentions are, that I may keep up the communication.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The enemy hold a line of earth-works on the Orange road in my front. The skirmishers are pushing the enemy's thin line rapidly before it. The line they abandoned was a finished one, 300 yards behind the rough one from which we drove them yesterday. The only Wilderness Run on the map is near Old Wilderness Tavern. My trains, however, are all beyond the Brock road.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

The man Gardner is not here; when found will send him up.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

General Birney has made connection with the Fifth Corps.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Some time last night an officer of General Hays' staff called at these headquarters for authority to take the remains of that general to Washington. Not anticipating that we would have any communication with that city he was so informed. The commanding general directs that this officer be advised that the body can now be taken to the rear in the train that is about going after ammunition. Please give the officer the requisite authority and direct him to take the body to Chancellorsville, from which point the train will start.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 6, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The rebels have broken through Barlow's right, and are now pushing us back along the plank road. General Gibbon has been sent for to close the gap. Sharp firing along the plank road.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 6, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Burnside is making a heavy attack facing the Orange plank road. General Hancock has a continuous line, but not organized enough to advance. Robinson's brigade nearly up. General Hancock has troops enough to hold, if he can hold at all. All the enemy seem to have gone to fight Burnside. There is no enemy in Hancock's front south of the Orange plank road.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—2.15 p. m. (Received 3 p. m.)

General HANCOCK:

I have been expecting to hear from Lyman as to the morale of your command. Should Burnside not require any assistance and the

enemy leave you undisturbed. I would let the men rest till 6 p. m., at which time a vigorous attack made by you, in conjunction with Burnside, will, I think, overthrow the enemy. I wish this done.

Yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

I send you a dispatch just received from Burnside. Help him if you can.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 6, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The present partially disorganized condition of this command renders it extremely difficult to obtain a sufficiently reliable body to make a really powerful attack. I will, however, do my best and make an attack at that hour in conjunction with General Burnside. What development of the attack do you desire? Will you indicate a front?

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 6, 1864—4 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I find the enemy on accident has set fire to the woods on my left front. I will examine how far it extends. I will assist Burnside, in case he attacks, in some shape, at 6 o'clock, anywhere. Where the woods are burning the troops could not go in. I have no connection with General Burnside as yet.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

MAY 6, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I cannot get to General Hancock and am on the cross-road. General Stevenson says he has had no orders to move down to General Hancock. He is on the plank road close to the head of the cross-road. I hear musketry as if Burnside were attacking, but not heavy.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864—5.25 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

At 4.15 p. m. the enemy made a very determined assault upon my lines, covering a great part of the front. The attack was strongest

from the left up to the plank road. The enemy was finally and completely repulsed at 5 o'clock. The ammunition being almost exhausted, and the hour for Burnside's attack not having arrived, I did not advance, but threw skirmishers out in pursuit. I wish now to know whether to make the assault you mentioned. I find some slight prospect of an attack farther up the Brock road, but it may be only skirmishers, but still I do not like to leave my position to make an advance with this uncertainty. The enemy's attack was continuous along my line and exceedingly vigorous. Toward the close one brigade of the enemy (Anderson's brigade) took my first line of rifle-pits from a portion of the Excelsior Brigade, but it was finally retaken by Colonel Carroll. The attack and the repulse was of the handsomest kind. Please send me your orders.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 6, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Owing to the fact that I cannot supply my command with ammunition, my wagons being so far to the rear, having been sent farther back on account of the enemy's assault this morning, I do not think it advisable to attack this evening, as the troops I would select are the ones whose ammunition is exhausted, and I would have no time to prepare a formidable attack, the troops are so mixed up, owing to the occurrences of to-day. Still, if I get the order, I will send some in on my right. The enemy give a little evidence of another attack farther to my right, where I find considerable want of order, which I would wish to correct. Therefore, my opinion is adverse, but I await your order.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LYMAN:

Tell General Stevenson, from General Meade, to report at once to General Hancock, and if he cannot find him to report to General Birney with his troops. An aide of General Birney's reported at a little after 5 o'clock that the enemy had broken through Mott's division at the plank road and separating two of Hancock's divisions from the rest. You do not mention it. What are the facts?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

The line is completely restored. General Stevenson has his order and is in position.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—5.45 p. m. (Received 6.10 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch is received. The major-general commanding directs that you do not attack to-day. Remain as you are for the present.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you send for the ammunition wagons authorized to be kept with the troops and have them close up with your corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

A rebel major taken prisoner reports that Longstreet was wounded and Pickett killed in the attack of this afternoon. Already two colors have been picked up at one spot. Half dozen prisoners have stated to one of my staff that Longstreet led the attack on me. Several colors were captured to-day, and I don't know how many more may turn up.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 6—6.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Have just captured a rebel prisoner, who says he belongs to A. P. Hill's corps. Does not know whether the whole corps is following or not. It may be doing so. I have sent for Barlow, and if you have nothing down there I should like to have Gibbon.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

The prisoner says that he belongs to Mahone's brigade, of Hill's corps, and that after a feint attack they moved more to the left—whether to attack Gibbon or envelope me I do not know.

MAY 6, 1864—7.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

There is no doubt that Hill's corps is enveloping me. I have a line of rifle-pits from the right of the Brock road covering the right, around to the Catharpin road. Line well built. I have just been around there. The pits are well filled and the men well prepared.

I expect the heavy artillery here, which will form a second line, and I have one or two brigades in reserve. If the line is broken in any place, which I don't believe it will be, we will patch it up. I only regret that it will be dark when the assault is made. One of my brigades repulsed Mahone's brigade on the high ground to the front, after which I ordered it to be withdrawn. It was called back in fine order. The attack may not be made to-night.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that Sedgwick's whole line has been broken and driven in, and directs you to send all the troops you can spare up here as soon as possible.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 6, 1864—1 a. m.

The troops will be in readiness for action at 4.30 o'clock this a. m. The entire command will attack the enemy precisely at 5 o'clock. Notification of the moment of attack will be given from these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

Division commanders will immediately take measures to have the commands collected, with a line of battle properly secured. The front line of rifle-pits will be examined to see that it is sufficiently manned. Ammunition must be provided for every command. It can be obtained by the ordnance officers. Commanders will at once ascertain the location of their different organizations, and will have them collected together as much as possible.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864—7 p. m.

The headquarters of the corps to-night will be on the plank road at a point where the corps lights can be seen from the crossing of the Brock road, about 400 yards distant.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Please retain Stevenson's brigade. General Hancock has requested me to write you. The direction is sanctioned.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 6, 1864—6.45 p. m.

General GIBBON:

Mahone's brigade, of Hill's corps, made the attack. Prisoners say that at the final attack they moved to the left somewhat; whether to attack you or more to envelop me I don't know.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864—1.30 a. m.

SOLDIERS: You are to attack the enemy again this morning. The fate of the best Government in the world may depend upon your efforts. You are well supported, and the commanding general trusts that the old Second Division, Third Corps, will not know what fail is.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

T. W. EAYRE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 6, 1864—5.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

All General Warren's troops are disposed for the assault, except two brigades of Robinson's division, which are held in reserve to Griffin and Crawford. The head of Burnside's column is just going on to the field, and in consequence of their not being in position, I have sent the heavy artillery, under Colonel Kitching, 2,400, to support General Wadsworth. The engineer troops are with General Griffin; the train guards are nearly all with their commands. Judging by the firing the attack began, as ordered, at 5 a. m. I have no report.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.

MAY 6, 1864—6 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding desires that you will throw your pickets and skirmishers well out to the front.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864.

General WARREN:

Dispatch from Hancock just received. Attacked at 5 a. m.; was driving them handsomely. Birney had connected with Wadsworth.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 6, 1864—6.25 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Griffin has moved up close to the enemy's position and driven him to his lines, and I am getting in artillery to open on the enemy. I think it best to not make the final assault until the preparations are made. We are driving them rapidly on the left and prisoners are coming in. General Burnside's column ought soon to be in position to intercept the retreat of the enemy's right. His (the enemy's) artillery has ceased for some time.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.

MAY 6, 1864—6.55 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Matters are much as they have been for the last half hour. Our line does not apparently advance. General Warren received the dispatch* inclosed from General Wadsworth, dated 6.20. No considerable firing going on on the right.

E. R. PLATT,
Major, &c.

MAY 6, 1864—7.15 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

General Hancock has taken rifle-pits and two flags. Longstreet has come up on his left. The major-general commanding considers it of the utmost importance that your attack should be pressed with the utmost vigor. Spare ammunition and use the bayonet.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
May 6, 1864. (Received 7.43 a. m.)

Colonel LOCKE:

The enemy are advancing a column of troops past the point occupied by General Crawford yesterday to the right.

CASTLE,
Signal Officer.

The orderly should have shown this at headquarters, but pushed on after General Warren.

F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*Not found.

MAY 6, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Signal officer reports about a brigade of enemy at point where General Crawford was yesterday (Turner's house). They are intrenching there. The following dispatch just received, dated 7.40:

Wadsworth has been slowly pushed back, but is contesting every inch of ground. The head of Burnside's column has reached the cross-roads.

Reported by Captain Cope, aide-de-camp.

Respectfully,

E. R. PLATT,
Major, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864.

Major PLATT:

I send you a dispatch* from General Hancock to read. The enemy should not be permitted to come in on us. Warren's troops should be disposed at once to prevent it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 6, 1864—9.05 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Cutler's brigade has fallen back out of the woods pretty well disorganized. He reports heavy losses, and the enemy's skirmishers within three-eighths of a mile from the crest to the right and front of General Warren's headquarters. General Warren is not here, but word has been sent him.

Very respectfully,

E. R. PLATT.

MAY 6, 1864—9.30 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that you suspend your operations on the right, and send some force to prevent the enemy from pushing past your left, near your headquarters. They have driven in Cutler in disorder and are following him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—10.35 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that under existing circumstances your attack and that of General Sedgwick be suspended. You will at once throw up defensive works to enable you to hold

* Not found, but see Hancock to Humphreys, May 6, 7.10 a. m., p. 440.

your position with the fewest possible number of men, and report at once what number of men you will have disposable for an attack upon Hancock's right. General Sedgwick has the same instructions. You will confer with him respecting the line you are both to hold.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 6, 1864.
(Received 11.10 a. m.)

Colonel LOCKE:

Enemy's infantry moving at double-quick to our left or toward General Hancock. Can see them in field occupied by General Crawford yesterday.

CASTLE.

MAY 6, 1864—11 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I will go at once in person to consult with General Sedgwick, and have ordered up my tools. I will let the regular engineer officers take charge of the line, if you have no objection. I will then have available, comparatively fresh, two brigades of Pennsylvania Reserves, say about 2,200; two brigades of General Robinson, 2,000; two brigades of General Griffin, 2,000; engineer troops, 1,500; total 7,700. Perhaps the remainder, heavy artillery and Wadsworth's division, will hold my line intrenched.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—12 m.

Major-General WARREN:

General Hancock is very heavily pressed and has had to retire. It may perhaps be necessary either to make an advance from your left, or send troops to him from your command. Have some in readiness. Has Colonel Morrison reported to you with the three regiments of Burnside?

GEO. G. MEADE.

MAY 6, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

An aide of General Wadsworth has just come in. He reports that the general is killed; that he was with him when he was struck in the head about half an hour ago. The body was left on the ground. The troops he had with him are forming on the plank road. The Second Corps and Getty's division are falling back to the plank road. The aide who brings this is Lieutenant Rogers.

Very respectfully,

E. R. PLATT,
Major, &c.

MAY 6, 1864—1.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that you send the other brigade of Robinson's to report to General Hancock immediately. Some regiments of reserve [heavy?] artillery that were to have been sent to Hancock will be retained here.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Show to General Robinson if General Warren is absent.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Or his Chief of Staff in his absence:

General Willcox has been withdrawn from the road to Parker's Store, on which there is some of the enemy. The major-general commanding directs that the artillery regiments of Burnside's command be posted on that road to hold it. The leading regiment will join you with this note.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

General HUMPHREYS:

If you would allow me, I would suggest not putting any force out on that road so small. My artillery now controls it as well, and the force might be more useful perhaps elsewhere, if troops should be much needed.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 6, 1864—3.15 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The inclosed dispatch* from Colonel Comstock is sent for your information and guidance. The major-general commanding directs that you make some connection with Burnside, by a skirmish or picket-line, and, in the event of Burnside being attacked heavily, or a force endeavoring to pass through the gap mentioned, you will use all your available force to meet it, calling on General Sedgwick for Morris' and Upton's brigades, if necessary. General Sedgwick will be instructed to send them upon your call.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 6, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

As General Hancock's troops will soon have to pass over the ground where General Wadsworth's troops were engaged, it is sug-

*See Comstock to Grant, 2.45 p. m., p. 461.

gested that some of General Wadsworth's staff, with a small party, follow them or proceed to the ground and endeavor to recover General Wadsworth's remains, should he have fallen.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 6, 1864—4 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the right of General Hancock appears to be coming in through the woods, and directs that you throw such troops on your left as are necessary to hold them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 6, 1864—5.15 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Send what men you can spare to General Hancock's assistance. The enemy has broken through his line, and communication between the two parts is cut off. Get Sedgwick's two brigades to supply the place of yours.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you recall the troops just sent to Hancock as soon as they have rested. They have been halted by the major-general commanding upon hearing from General Hancock that his line was not broken, though the outer rifle-pit was taken from the Excelsior Brigade, but retaken immediately by Carroll.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 6, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

General Sedgwick reports that his whole line is forced in. The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw General Griffin to your second line, or rifle-pits, and put the Pennsylvania Reserves on your right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 6, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Can you send me some infantry to put across the plank road? Stragglers of the Sixth Corps are coming down the road, followed by a column of the enemy. I have directed the infantry (Baxter's) you sent me to form across the plank road, but we want more.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding suggests that one point should be considered in determining the line of intrenchments for the Fifth and Sixth Corps: If the troops should be withdrawn to a position in rear of that they now occupy, it may suggest to the enemy that the line is to be merely a defensive one, and the nature of the intended operation might be surmised. If the line chosen should be to the rear, then a heavy line of skirmishers should be left on the front line, which may retire, when forced to do so, to the intrenchments.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Sedgwick.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Grant is very anxious that the new line should be occupied before daylight.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864—12.30 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

We are ordered to make another advance to-morrow [to-day] at 5 a. m. precisely, everywhere. I want you to relieve the brigade you have belonging to General Robinson and send it back to mass in this open field just out of the woods. Your regiment of the train guard will be here by 3 a. m. I shall have 1,500 engineer troops of the pontoon trains; I shall give you them. General Crawford is to close up next to your left, instead of the Maryland Brigade, and move out at the same time you do. I shall try to form a reserve of the two brigades of General Robinson I shall have and the heavy artillery. Everything in the army is to be put in. General Burnside is to come up to-night and take part in the affair to-morrow

morning. I have seen General Wright. He says he will fight up to sustain you. General Ricketts' brigade has been withdrawn and sent around to General Sedgwick. Don't fail to move out, all prepared, at 5 a. m. I am at the Lacy house and can be seen at any time.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 6, 1864—4.45 p. m.

DEAR GRIFFIN:

By withdrawing my troops your left is entirely exposed. I have intrenchments for a brigade, connecting with Sweitzer, which I vacated. There have been no troops on my left all day. I threw it back some distance.

Yours, truly,

CRAWFORD.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 5.05 p. m.)

General GRIFFIN:

As soon as you can will you post a strong skirmish line to relieve General Crawford and the brigade he has there, so that General Crawford can come to my headquarters with his brigade.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., FIFTH CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

The brigade will move at 3 a. m., in as quiet a manner as possible, to the point on the right of the pike where General Ayres formed his column of attack yesterday morning. The brigade will form a column of attack composed of three lines, and will be ready to attack from the point indicated at 5 a. m., in accordance with a general plan for the attack of the whole army. Everything in the army is to be pushed forward at that hour, and it is expected that every officer and man will do his duty.

By command of Brigadier-General Bartlett:

C. H. ROSS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

SIR: My command, Second Brigade, Second Division, is, as General Warren directed, placed in rear of General Meade's headquarters and north of plank road.

R. COULTER,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS,
In Front of the Enemy, May 6, 1864—7.20 a. m.

[Col. F. T. LOCKE:]

COLONEL: The dispositions have been made as ordered by the general. The enemy have a strong line of intrenchments in our front, an open space in front of Griffin which is swept by his artillery. My left is strongly felt by the enemy. I am closely connected with Griffin's right, and ready to advance. My skirmish line has been attacked twice in same place.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 6, 1864.

General CRAWFORD:

As soon as General Griffin replaces your force by his (a heavy skirmish line), bring your brigade to my headquarters.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

BATTLE-FIELD, *May 6, 1864—11 a. m.*

General WARREN:

The order received by Lieutenant Higbee has been carried into effect, and one brigade has moved to the intrenchments. This movement has left my left entirely exposed, and the enemy, taking advantage of it, has made an attack upon it, which has been repulsed. There is an immediate necessity for troops on my left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 6, 1864. (Received 11.15 a. m.)

General CRAWFORD:

You can recall your brigade, if you need it. Throw your left back and strengthen it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864—12.30 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

You must attack the enemy to-morrow [to-day] at 5 a. m., May 6. By 3 a. m. you must move your line to the right, so as to connect with General Griffin, relieving the Maryland Brigade, which you will direct to move out to the open field to their rear, mass, and await orders. You must replenish your ammunition to-night. My headquarters are at the Lacy house. When you march forward let your line of march be due west and your line of battle perpendicular. Keep closed in toward General Griffin on your right, and double back your left, so as to prevent a flank fire from any force you may drive back.

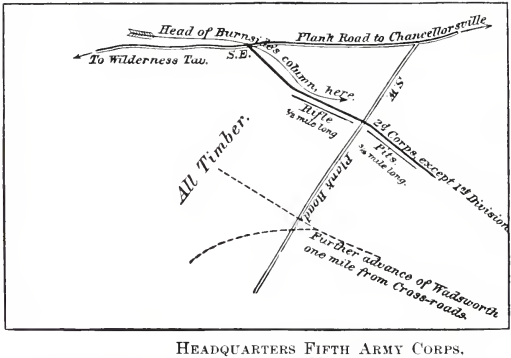
G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 6, 1864—7.40 a. m. (Received 8.15 a. m.)

General WARREN:

Wadsworth has been slowly pushed back, but is contesting every inch of ground. The head of Burnside's column has reached the cross-roads. [See annexed sketch.]

COPE,
Aide-de-Camp.



HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864—12.15 a. m.

General WADSWORTH:

We are ordered to make another advance to-morrow [to-day] at 4.30 a. m. everywhere on the line. Set your line of battle on a line northeast and southwest, and march directly southeast on the flank of the enemy in front of General Hancock.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

The above is the copy of the order as nearly as I can remember it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 6, 1864.

Colonel LOCKE:

SIR: General Meade, on my arrival, ordered me to report to General Hancock; subsequently to hold the woods in front, and to report to General Warren. General Burnside is moving a column toward Hancock. I have a part of all the brigades in the four divisions—all I can hear of. I will await the orders of General Warren. I am fearful that General Wadsworth is dead.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 6, 1864.

Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

SIR: I have sent an officer and 10 men to conduct Hancock's men. I don't know that General Wadsworth is killed. I know that he rode up the plank road while I was rallying the troops of the division, and an officer informed me that he saw a general answering to his description in every particular killed at the same place.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 6, 1864.

Colonel LOCKE:

I just learn that General Wadsworth is killed, and that the balance of the division is scattered and gone, except what I have with me.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

I learn this from one of his aides.

L. CUTLER.

MAY 6, 1864.

Colonel LOCKE:

SIR: I have 1,369 men of the three brigades of the division, 740 of my own, and the balance from Rice and Stone. I have drawn my ammunition and am ready for any duty which may be assigned them.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The surgeon of the Fifth New York Cavalry says that Colonel Hamblin on the picket-line directed him to report to me that the enemy are moving two columns of infantry with a battery toward my right. If a division of Burnside's is to report to me I would suggest that it be posted toward my right and nearly parallel to the river.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General, Commanding Sixth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch* received to throw up works. It will be commenced at once. I am afraid that as soon as the work is commenced they will annoy us with shells and delay the work. They have four batteries in front of my line. It is my opinion to hold this securely not

*See Humphreys to Warren, 10.35 a. m., p. 451.

a regiment should be withdrawn. General Wright is strongly of that opinion. If absolutely necessary I can send Russell's brigade, which has suffered the least.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

My breast heights are nearly up, except in some places where the men cannot work without drawing too much fire. I think I can dispense with Morris' and Upton's brigades. I do not think it would be safe to reduce more. Captain Michler has just been through the lines. Will soon send a sketch.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 6, 1864—11 a. m.

Brigade commanders will throw up works for the position of their first lines, making any slight changes in the position of the lines that may be necessary to secure proper ground. Tools will be brought up on the road in rear of these headquarters, where they can be obtained by the working parties. Details of working parties will be made so as not to weaken the front line, which will be always held in readiness to repel an attack. Probably most readily constructed will be breast-works of timber. Captain Michler, Engineers, has been requested to ride along the line and give any advice necessary. The pioneers will be employed on the work, forming a part of the working parties.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY,
Wilderness Tavern, May 6, 1864—6.20 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that you take but two of your divisions to the front, and place the third at this place near the crossing of the turnpike and Germanna plank road.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 6, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 10.50 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Burnside has gained 1½ miles to his left to connect with Wadsworth, and now moves at once toward Hancock's firing, with Potter's division deployed, supported by a brigade. I should think Hancock's firing a mile away.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 6, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Push in with all vigor so as to drive the enemy from General Hancock's front, and get in on the Orange and Fredericksburg plank road at the earliest possible moment. Hancock has been expecting you for the last three hours, and has been making his attack and dispositions with a view to your assistance.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 6, 1864—12.30 p. m. (Received 2 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Burnside put in one brigade behind another, holding the third in reserve. The leading brigade has been rather smartly engaged for fifteen minutes and the firing has now stopped. He must be near Hancock, as General Stevenson, who got cut off from Hancock with 100 men, came into Burnside's column.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 6, 1864—1.55 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

As Willcox's brigade is withdrawn from its position, about 2 miles out the Parker Store road, General Willcox reports the enemy following it with skirmishers, but apparently not in great force. There are no troops now on the road except those about half a mile from the Lacy house.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

Burnside is driving the enemy in his front, and has carried a small earth-work or log-work.

C. B. C.

GENERAL BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 6, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Warren's troops, now on the Parker's Store road, one-half or three-quarters of a mile from the Lacy house, don't connect with Wadsworth's right, and Burnside's whole force is three-quarters of a mile in front of the gap. Connection should be made. Potter, commanding leading division, reports enemy advancing at 3.25. Willcox is moving his brigade up to him. Some regiments had behaved badly, and Potter had been checked.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

An officer who came in the Parker's Store road with Willcox's brigade reports seeing a force which he thought as large as a division moving from our left to right.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 6, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE.
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

General Hancock is directed to make an attack at 6 o'clock this evening. Be prepared and aid him in it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

GENERAL BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 6, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your note is received. Willcox has orders to get through to Hancock if possible, and attack again at once. He has nearly two brigades of fresh troops besides the other division, which was severely checked, the new regiments breaking. He will move to the left of Potter's attack. Nothing new from the Parker's Store road.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 6, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieut. Col. C. B. COMSTOCK,
Aide-de-Camp to Lieutenant-General Grant:

Immediately on receipt of your first note, the reserve brigade of General Burnside was sent out on Parker's Store road. General Warren has also been instructed to keep a lookout, and if any troops moved out, to attack them vigorously. Your last note is just sent to General Warren with instructions to the same effect.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Wilderness Tavern, May 6, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE.
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: General Hancock has been severely engaged for some time, the enemy having forced his line in one place, but being immediately repulsed. In consequence of this, orders have been sent Hancock suspending the order to attack at 6 p. m. In your movements for the balance of the day, or until you receive further orders, hold your own and be governed entirely by circumstances. Should the enemy attack Hancock, give such aid as you can. After dark, and all is quiet, put your men in a good position for defense and for holding our line, and give your men all the rest they can get.

Yours,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

MAY 6, 1864—4 p. m.

General [A. E. BURNSIDE]:

Colonel Humphrey reports that the Tenth Regulars have connected with Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania about one mile on his right. If Mott attacks, my right can move forward as he gains ground. But it will require Potter's division at least to support my right a mile in length. I propose to refuse the left till the right comes up.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you put in your division without delay on the extreme left, and make every possible exertion to turn the enemy, and connect your line with General Hancock. It is of the utmost importance that this should be done, and as rapidly as possible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that immediately upon your arrival you cross the bridge and, relieving the cavalry on the heights (to place in such positions as you may desire), place your battery in position and hold the bridge and the situation at all hazards.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Wilderness Tavern, May 6, 1864—7.10 a. m.

General FERRERO:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that you report to General Sedgwick with your colored division and with the white troops, on the two roads leading west from the plank road, belonging to General Burnside.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO:

The commanding general directs that you report in person to General Sedgwick for orders. Also that you notify the commanders of the white troops in your vicinity to report also. These are Colonel Marshall's command [and] Third New Jersey Cavalry. This will be their order.

Very respectfully,

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 6, 1864—8 a. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO:

Relieve Colonel Marshall's (Provisional) brigade and heavy artillery regiments now guarding the roads leading to the Jacobs' Ferry road by colored troops, reserving enough of the latter to guard your trains and bridge. Move Colonel Marshall's command up the plank road to the intersection of the road leading to General Sedgwick, to support him when called for. Report this disposition to General Sedgwick. Direct all your trains to be moved to this side of the river and park them. General Meade ordered all the troops to report to him.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 6, 1864—8.50 a. m.

General FERRERO:

General Sedgwick directs that you will advance your white troops along the road indicated by the guide who carries you this. You will attack and press the enemy with all dispatch.

N. MICHLER,
Captain of Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Division, Ninth Corps:

The following dispatch has been received by General Sedgwick from General Humphreys, chief of staff:

* * * * * * *

The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Ferrero, with a a division of black troops, is under your command, together with some cavalry of General Burnside's. You will dispose of them in such manner as you think best.

* * * * * * *

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

General Sedgwick directs that you leave two regiments at Germanna Ford to protect the bridge. Place one brigade on the road at Beale's house, the second road on the right coming up from the ford, and the rest of your division on the first road on the right after leaving the second line of works.

The cavalry referred to by General Humphreys will be under your command. General Sedgwick wishes that you should throw it well to your front and report at once any observations they may make.

You will keep out strong pickets.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. A. WHITTIER.
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 6, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO:

Place a guard at the bridge and permit no stragglers to pass over. Arrest them, and as fast as they amount to a sufficient number send them under guard to General Patrick, provost-marshal-general, Army of the Potomac, at this place.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

J. A. RAWLINS.
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Wilderness Tavern, May 6, 1864—8 p. m.

General FERRERO:

GENERAL: The Sixth Corps has been forced back from its position late this evening, and there is now every probability that before morning the enemy will intervene between you and this command. Should you learn such to be the case, move at once across Germanna Ford and down the river to Ely's Ford. There cross to the south side and remain with the wagon train until you receive further orders.

Yours,

U. S. GRANT.
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY,
May 6, 1864—9 p. m.

General FERRERO:

Move your troops with everything at the river up the plank road to this place. You must move immediately, otherwise you may be cut off. Should you not start before the enemy intervene then go by Ely's Ford to Chancellorsville.

U. S. GRANT.
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

My cavalry has been engaged, and is now engaged, heavily at Todd's Tavern and on the Brock road in front of the Furnaces, 3 or 4 miles. It is reported that there is infantry in their front. There is no infantry on the Brock road. Wagon train has been reported moving from Parker's Store toward Shady Grove Church, or moving from Shady Grove Church toward Parker's Store. Which direction it is moving is not well known. Every attack made upon the cavalry so far has been handsomely repulsed.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The cavalry is all right. So far they have handled the enemy very handsomely in every attack that they have made. I think it best not to follow up any advantage gained, as the cavalry is now very far out from this place and I do not wish to give them any chance of getting at our trains.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following copy of report of Brigadier-General Custer is forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 6, 1864—12 m.

Captain MCCLELLAN:

I was attacked by Fitz. Lee's division near the intersection of the Furnace and Brock roads. After an obstinate fight I drove him in disorder from the field, compelling him to leave a considerable number of dead and wounded on the field. My loss will be about 20 in all. General Rosser's assistant adjutant-general was killed. I have prisoners from Young's and Rosser's brigades. Colonel Devin, with his command, arrived in the nick of time and rendered good service. Gregg also let me have two guns. The enemy retired rapidly to my left, and are now in front of Gregg.

G. A. CUSTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

Your dispatch of 11.45 a. m. received. General Hancock has been heavily pressed and his left turned. The major-general commanding thinks that you had better draw in your cavalry so as to secure the protection of the trains. The order requiring an escort for the wagons to-night has been rescinded.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—2.35 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch received. The trains are now moving to Ely's Ford. The trains of the Second Army Corps would not move without an escort, so I have sent 1,300 dismounted men to Ely's Ford with it. I have sent a regiment to scour the country to United States Ford and to watch the roads. United States Ford is not in a passable condition for cavalry or infantry without much labor; it is also quite deep. The enemy's cavalry again attacked me and were repulsed and driven, leaving their dead and wounded on the field. They are now working toward my left, and I have made new dispositions in accordance with orders received from the major-general commanding.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—5.50 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Unless the trains are ordered to cross the river at Ely's Ford and directed to park on the north bank, the road will be blocked up and it will be impossible to get to the ford.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding Cavalry Corps.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT:

As soon as General Wilson relieves your brigade, which he is to do at once, you will come back and take position on the road leading from the road you are on to the Furnaces, your right at the Furnaces. When you start back send an officer here for the balance of W[illiston's] battery. General Custer is at the intersection of the middle road from the Furnaces and the Brock road. I have just

ordered Colonel Devin, with Heaton's battery, to report to General Custer, and then General Custer will attack General Longstreet, who is reported on the Brock road on Hancock's left and rear. Open communication with General Custer and tell him you will support him, and in that case you will take command of the whole. Please keep me advised constantly of your movements and what is going on. Captain Dana will make further explanations.

Yours, &c.,

TORBERT,
General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT,
Commanding Reserve Brigade:

Fall back at once to the plank road you were on yesterday, and put your brigade in the open space where Gregg was yesterday when you arrived.

Yours, &c.,

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—6.10 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Division:

My orders direct me to report at Chancellorsville, to get feed, ammunition, &c. My column is moving by Alrich's. The Tenth New York is here; no enemy. Please send the First Vermont by the Furnaces to Chancellorsville.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Chancellorsville, Va., May 6, 1864—7 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say that he has just ordered Devin's brigade to join General Custer and to connect himself with General Hancock's left by a strong system of patrols. As soon as General Wilson gets his ammunition, forage, and provisions, he will relieve General Merritt's brigade, now at Alrich's, and Merritt's brigade will cover the road to the Furnaces and will be ready to be used wherever it may be wanted. I have not heard from Old Wilderness yet, but the fighting there this morning has been very heavy. Your trains are not far from here. You can be supplied at any time you may think best.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

Your note* received. One brigade sent to Piney Branch Church to take care of your rear.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Division:

General Wilson will send a brigade to Piney Branch Church, on the road leading from Spotsylvania, and will have another brigade at Alrich's. Custer is engaged on your right. If you can attack them in flank do so.

By command of Major-General Sheridan:

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Second Cavalry Division:

Dispatch received.* The major-general commanding has sent a brigade of General Wilson's division to Piney Branch Church. General Merritt has gone to the Furnaces. The First Brigade, of General Wilson's division, relieved Merritt at Alrich's.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—11 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Division:

Your communication* in regard to the enemy attacking you is received. You will hold your position as long as possible. Everything is going well toward Wilderness Tavern, where the infantry are engaged. A general attack has just been ordered along the whole line. Custer has just repulsed an attack of the enemy.

By command of Major-General Sheridan:

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Not found.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Chancellorsville, Va., May 6, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Division:

The general commanding directs that you fall back from your present position at Todd's Tavern and relieve General Wilson's division, now occupying Piney Grove Church and Alrich's.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Chancellorsville, Va., May 6, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: General Custer and Colonel Devin have been ordered back to the Furnaces; General Merritt to the plank road leading from this point to Old Wilderness Tavern. General Wilson, on being relieved by you at Piney Branch Church and Alrich's as directed in previous note, will report for orders at these headquarters. Very hard infantry fighting along our whole infantry line. General Hancock's left flank has been turned by the enemy.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1864—7.40 p. m.

General GREGG:

Ten wagons with rations for your command were ordered to be parked at this point this evening. I have an officer out hunting for them now. Will send you something definite on the subject in half an hour. At any rate the provisions will be ready for you in the morning, if we send back to Ely's Ford for them.

Respectfully,

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
May 6, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General GREGG.

Your note* received. One brigade sent to Piney Branch Church to take care of your rear.

Respectfully,

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

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* Not found.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
Washington, D. C., May 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. SLOUGH,
Military Governor of Alexandria:

GENERAL: All officers en route to join their regiments in the Army of the Potomac or General Burnside's command have been ordered to report to you, and await further instructions or an opportunity to join their commands in Alexandria.

Respectfully,

J. H. TAYLOR,
Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *May 6, 1864—11 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Fortress Monroe:

A dispatch of the New York Tribune reporter just received states that yesterday the Army of the Potomac came in collision with Lee's army near Chancellorsville; that Lee's whole army is there, and that a general battle would take place to-day. After he left the army on his way in heavy cannonading was heard, showing that the engagement was going on. Burnside reached the field with his forces last night.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA,
Near City Point, Va., May 6, 1864—2.30 p. m.
(Received 9.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding U. S. Army:

In continuation of my telegram of yesterday I have to report that we have not been disturbed during the night; that all our troops are landed; that we have taken the positions which were indicated to the commanding general at our last conference and are carrying out that plan.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 6, 1864.

Major ECKERT:

Just from City Point. Major-General Butler thinks it unsafe to run line south side river from Jamestown yet; can't protect it. May have to start one from City Point. Will see Butler to-morrow and decide, if possible; also arrange regular dispatch boats from Butler's headquarters to Jamestown office. I left 3.30 p. m. We occupy City Point, both sides of Appomattox, also for some distance up it. Butler thought Petersburg might be evacuated. Will let you hear from me to-morrow. Hurry that battery and wire along.

G. D. SHELDON.

NEW YORK, *May* 6, 1864.
(Received 11.45 a. m.)

General E. R. S. CANBY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Shall I leave for Fortress Monroe, agreeably to directions from the Secretary of War, received 4th instant, before an officer is designated to take my place?

GEO. J. STANNARD,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *May* 6, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE J. STANNARD,
44 Bleecker Street, New York City:

You will leave at once for Fort Monroe. General Dix will designate an officer to relieve you.

By order of the Secretary of War:

ED. R. S. CANBY,
Brigadier-General and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
May 6, 1864.

Colonel FULLER,
Chief Quartermaster:

COLONEL: Send a good tow down river to help up Belger's battery; it is about 15 or 20 miles below.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. C.,
No. 57. } *In the Field, May* 6, 1864.

I. Lieut. Col. C. E. Fuller is hereby appointed chief quartermaster of the army in the field, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. Lieut. Col. M. R. Morgan is hereby appointed chief commissary of subsistence of the army in the field, and will be obeyed accordingly. Lieut. Col. M. P. Small will proceed to Fortress Monroe and forward all supplies, as required by Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan.

III. Asst. Surg. E. McClellan, U. S. Army, is hereby appointed assistant medical director of this department, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS.
May 6, 1864—2.45 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

I have just seen General Terry, and he reports that he cannot get the use of any of the wharves where the Eighteenth Army Corps have been disembarking, and that the pontoons are so unwieldy that

they cannot make more than two trips to-night. The only wharf I have had is one arranged for the landing of General Ames' division. Colonel Serrell reports that the landings or scows brought up have neither anchors nor ropes, nor any means of making them fast. All the arrangements for landing seem very imperfect. Whatever they are, they are being and will be used to their utmost capacity, but my command will not be on shore by daybreak by considerable.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 6, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

I will give General Smith a battery if I get two. I urge that the monitors be sent up the river farther.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 1. } *Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 6, 1864.*

The following-named officers are hereby announced as constituting the staff of the Tenth Army Corps:

Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster, U. S. Volunteers, chief of staff.
Lieut. Col. Ed. W. Smith, assistant adjutant-general.
Capt. I. R. Sealy, Forty-seventh New York Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general.
Lieut. Col. M. R. Morgan, chief commissary of subsistence.
Lieut. Col. R. H. Jackson, assistant inspector-general and acting chief of artillery.
Lieut. Col. C. E. Fuller, chief quartermaster.
Capt. W. V. Hutchings, assistant quartermaster, U. S. Volunteers, acting chief quartermaster.
Surg. J. J. Craven, U. S. Volunteers, medical director.
Maj. J. C. Henshaw, judge-advocate.
Capt. A. Mordecai, chief of ordnance.
First Lieut. P. S. Michie, U. S. Engineers.
Maj. T. B. Brooks, aide-de-camp.
Capt. H. M. Bragg, aide-de-camp.
Capt. B. T. Frothingham, aide-de-camp.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to move your present camp to a position about 1 mile to

the front, near a brook that crosses the road in the rear of General Terry's division. You will leave the pickets stationed on the James River this morning, which post you will continue to picket. You will put your column in motion in time to arrive at your new position at daylight in the morning. You will report at these headquarters immediately on your arrival, for intrenching tools.

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Hatcher's, May 6, 1864—11.40 a. m.

General TURNER:

All right. Bring up your command, and after you get to this place put a picket on the river at the mouth of road leading down to it, about half a mile in front of here, and leave them behind you.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Hatcher's House, Va., May 6, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Corps:

COLONEL: I arrived with my column at this point some fifteen minutes since. My aide will show you the position I take. I have no communication with the left column. My aides have been used as orderlies. Can you send me some cavalry? There is a signal station on Jones' road, some 2 miles from here. I have sent men to capture the men there. There were two rebel pickets on this road. Nothing else of interest.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General, Comdg. Third Division.

COBB'S HOUSE, *May 6*, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

The left of my line occupied its position at 8.30 a. m. I am running my line of battle toward Ware Bottom Church north 15 west from this point. I am very anxious that General Gillmore should take his place in line as soon as possible. We have met no enemy, and have heard of none. Am anxious that the artillery and intrenching tools be sent as soon as possible.

Your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

P. S.—Rebel signal dispatches found here show that General Pickett was in Petersburg last evening.

W. F. S.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS.
May 6, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

My effort to reach the railroad to-day with General Heckman's brigade failed. I think had General Gillmore carried out my suggestion and made a corresponding move on the right, that one or both would have succeeded. As it is, I think it of vital importance that the road should be cut, both for the morale of our troops and to effect the object for which I suppose we are here. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that a picked force be taken from both corps of sufficient size to make success certain. I suggest a detail from both corps in order not to too much weaken the line across the Neck. It is my opinion that for this purpose only the most reliable officers and troops be selected for the attempt.

Very respectfully,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *May 6*, 1864.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH:

Why did the attempt fail? Please send by bearer a full report of what was done, so that I may make some guess of the force necessary. Give me also your judgment of that force and suggest your detail.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The project of striking the railroad to-night with a detachment from this command has been abandoned for what I deem good and sufficient reasons.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 6, 1864—11 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

General Heckman's brigade got on the railroad at the depot at Port Walthall Junction. Finding what was supposed to be a regiment of the enemy, he attacked. It afterward appeared that the rebels were in greater force. Heckman's brigade became hotly engaged. He sent back for a brigade, and General Weitzel, with the one remaining brigade of that division, was ordered to cover his retreat, if necessary, and hold the ground till the wounded are brought in. Before dark the firing ceased, and it is hoped that General Heckman has been left in possession of the field.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

FLAG-SHIP MALVERN,
Above City Point, May 6, 1864—4.30 a. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 11.30 a. m. Received 5 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

A successful landing at City Point was accomplished by the army yesterday afternoon.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

FLAG-SHIP MALVERN,
In James River, May 6, 1864—5 p. m.
(Received 10.30 p. m. 7th.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Since sending my dispatch I learn that the Commodore Jones was destroyed, not the Commodore Morris. Two previous verbal reports had stated it to be the latter. List of killed and wounded not received. Commanding officer badly wounded. Vessel blown into fragments.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
May 6, 1864—4 p. m.

General PALMER:

Lieutenant Wells, with a troop of cavalry, has just returned from a trip 12 miles out. He has information that a heavy column of infantry and sixty pieces of artillery moved day before yesterday, on the north side of the Neuse River, toward New Berne—6 generals commanding the same; but this being the first instance of the enemy allowing any one below their line it is somewhat doubted. Should this be true, however, Fort Anderson will be their point of attack. Nothing moving toward this point.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding Outposts.

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS
May 6, 1864—5.35 p. m.

General PALMER:

In addition to my dispatch of 4 this p. m., it is said that the column divided at Wise's Forks, half going north of the Neuse River and half to south side of the Trent, crossing, no doubt, at Pollocksville. The attack at the Gully was, no doubt, made to cover the crossing at Pollocksville. Six generals commanding makes it, say, six brigades, three in each column; total force from 12,000 to 15,000, and sixty pieces of artillery.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding Outposts.

(Duplicate to General Harland.)

STATION NO. 1, *May* 6, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Captain PURDY:

Hold your command ready for any emergency. The enemy appear to be on the extreme left again.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 6, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Captain GILLEN:

Get your command ready and post them along the earth-works to the left and right of the Neuse bridge. The enemy seems to be at the Gully again.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 6, 1864—11.35 a. m.

Lieutenant STOTHERS,
At the Neuse Bridge:

Be vigilant. The report I have is that the enemy are about the Gully. I have ordered Captain Gillen's company to be posted about the earth-works at the bridge. Lieutenant Wells is out toward Core Creek with cavalry. All this may not amount to anything, still it is best to be ready.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 6, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General PALMER:

My pickets report that nine boats, apparently pontoon-boats, containing 20 or 30 men each, came down the river to a point a little below my camp, when, for some reason, perhaps seeing they were observed, they retired up the river again. Several commissioned officers reached the river in season to see the last one or two boats, but were not near enough to make any accurate guess at the kind of boats or number of men they contained. I shall get further information soon from scouts sent to other points above.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel Twelfth New York Cavalry.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 6, 1864—12 m.

Captain JONES,
Officer of the Day:

I have your dispatch. Colonel McNary says that a cavalry officer said to fall back. I desire you to ascertain who this officer was, and what grounds he had for so saying. Is your move regarding burnt church prudent? Do not unmask this point.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel

STATION NO. 2, *May* 6, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

I have been almost to Pine Tree and saw nothing. The road is picketed with infantry from Rocky Run almost to Pine Tree. I shall not disturb the pickets on burnt church road. I shall send a lieutenant and 20 men down the Pine Tree road to where intersected by the Bogue road. A lieutenant of Troop L sent word to Colonel McNary.

JONES,
Captain, Officer of the Day.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 6, 1864—12.35 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

I learn unofficially that your force has been withdrawn from the Red House. Please inform me if that is the case, as in that case it will be necessary for me to change the position of my pickets.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel Twelfth New York Cavalry.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 6, 1864—12.35 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel HITCHCOCK:

You can return to camp and leave Captain Jones at Red House to act according to instructions given to him in person by the colonel commanding.

J. M. LOGAN,
Adjutant.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 6, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Lieutenant STOTHERS:

Upon investigation by general officer of the day he pronounces the excitement nothing more than a cavalry scare. Captain Gillen can take his men back to quarters, but he must hold them in readiness to obey your orders at any time.

J. M. LOGAN,
Adjutant.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 6, 1864—1.35 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MCNARY:

These false alarms from your command are very mortifying, and I am surprised that you take action upon idle rumors. It is your duty to investigate and then report and act promptly. I have ordered all your stores back, and all able-bodied officers and men are to be retained at their posts. Had you done what the general officer of the day did you would have saved yourself reproach and inspired your men with more confidence. I trust that these false alarms will not occur again.

CLAASSEN,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 2, *May* 6, 1864—2 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

All quiet. I have been to Pine Tree. All the pickets are at their posts. The Gully calm, as usual. I can see no good spot to dig a ditch. Shall I defer it for the present? I am coming to camp.

JONES,
Captain.

FORT GASTON, *May* 6, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Colonel AMORY,
Commanding, New Berne:

Captain Graham has just returned to camp, and reports that he went in sight of Evans' Mill; that he saw the rear guard of the enemy; that they appeared to be in full retreat. A small force of the enemy appeared above Brice's Creek. We have given them some shells, and I think they are satisfied. Captain Ransom has been sent to town.

McCHESNEY,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May* 6, 1864—7.50 p. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

I think you had better send a mounted guide to the Red House to guide Colonel McNary the shortest way to Rocky Run. Lieutenant-Colonel Hitchcock, with a force of the One hundred and thirty-second, will be at the Red House. Will you please have him kept reliably informed of anything occurring at Pine Tree?

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding Outposts.

CAMP PALMER, *May* 6, 1864—9.35 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Your telegram received. I have sent a staff officer to Colonel McNary, and also transportation. My pickets were attacked this morning at the Deep Gully, and skirmishing continued for more than an hour with a force of the enemy, probably not large, but which comprised both infantry and cavalry. In accordance with my standing instructions, the facts of the case were communicated at once to Colonel McNary by the officer of the picket, and no other message whatever was sent. That message was of course verbal, and sent by an orderly, who seems to have given his own views of the case, instead of telling merely what he had been sent to say. I am certain, however, that the officer raised no false alarm, and is in no way culpable.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel Twelfth New York Cavalry.

STATION NO. 2, *May* 6, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Captain PURDY:

You will send a small scout out to-night, to start after midnight, toward and back of Richardson's, perhaps as far as Watson's. Have an eye to boats crossing river.

JONES,
Captain and Officer of the Day.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilderness, May 7, 1864—10 a. m.
(Received by mail from Alexandria, Va., 10 p. m. 12th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

We were engaged with the enemy nearly all day, both on the 5th and 6th. Yesterday the enemy attacked our lines vigorously, first at one point and then at another, from right to left. They were repulsed at all points before reaching our lines, except once during the afternoon on Hancock's front and just after night on Sedgwick's front. In the former instance they were promptly and handsomely repulsed; the latter, Milroy's old brigade was attacked and gave way in the greatest confusion, almost without resistance, carrying good troops with them. Had there been daylight the enemy could have injured us very much in the confusion that prevailed; they, however, instead of getting through the break, attacked General Wright's division, of Sedgwick's corps, and were beaten back. Our losses to this time in killed, wounded, and prisoners will not probably exceed 12,000, of whom an unusually large proportion are but slightly wounded. Among the killed we have to deplore the loss of Generals Wadsworth and Hays. Generals Getty and Bartlett wounded, and Generals Seymour and Shaler taken prisoners. We have about 2,000 prisoners. They report General Jenkins killed and Longstreet wounded. I think the loss of the enemy must exceed ours, but this is only a guess based upon the fact that they attacked and were repulsed so often. I wish you would send me all the information you have from General Sherman, by Bull Run, and all the information from the James River expedition. At present we can claim no victory over the enemy, neither have they gained a single advantage. The enemy pushed out of his fortifications to prevent their position being turned, and have been sooner or later driven back in every instance. Up to this hour the enemy have not shown themselves in force within a mile of our lines.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—5 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Hancock writes there are indications the enemy are massing on his left, and he expects to be attacked. Has Burnside any reserve he can send to him? I suggest this because Burnside is the

nearest, and I have not yet ascertained precisely the locality of the troops changing last night, though I know they are in position. I have told Hancock to call on Burnside. He now has, I think, Stevenson.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Burnside has but two divisions and rather a long line to hold, so that I think it would not be prudent to remove any of his men, except to move to the front, until our line is entirely changed. I will instruct him, however, to assist Hancock in case of an attack either as suggested above by an advance or to move round with his whole force in case there is evidence of the enemy's massing on Hancock, leaving the line between Hancock and Warren as it was before Burnside came up. If our line has been shortened as was directed last night, is there not a large surplus of troops on the right?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 7, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Make all preparations during the day for a night march, to take position at Spotsylvania Court-House with one army corps; at Todd's Tavern with one, and another near the intersection of Piney Branch and Spotsylvania Railroad with the road from Alsop's to Old Court-House. If this move should be made, the trains should be thrown forward early in the morning to the Ny River. I think it would be advisable in making this change to leave Hancock where he is until Warren passes him. He could then follow and become the right of the new line. Burnside will move to Piney Branch Church. Sedgwick can move along the pike to Chancellorsville, thence to Piney Branch Church and on to his destination. Burnside will move on the plank road to the intersection of it with the Orange and Fredericksburg plank road, then follow Sedgwick to his place of destination. All vehicles should be got out of hearing of the enemy before the troops move, and then move off quietly. It is more than probable the enemy will concentrate for a heavy attack on Hancock* this afternoon. In case they do we must be prepared to resist them and follow up any success we may gain with our whole force. Such a result would necessarily modify these instructions. All the hospitals should be moved to-day to Chancellorsville.

Respectfully, &c.,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

* The words "on Hancock" not in copy furnished to General Burnside.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The above is an official copy of the instructions furnished to Major-General Meade. Your orders are embraced therein, and you will govern yourself accordingly.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near Old Wilderness Tavern, May 7, 1864—11.12 a. m.
(Received a. m. 8th.)

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, U. S. Army:

We have fought for two days. The enemy is said to be retiring. Our wounded will number 10,000. It is determined to send them to Rappahannock Station, by Ely's Ford, to meet the cars. The commanding general will send a dispatch to War Department stating his wants. Let a construction party be sent out on the road at once, and have it followed by trains sufficient to take in the wounded, which should arrive at Rappahannock Station early to-morrow. I shall send in all empty wagons to return with grain. Please have 750,000 pounds grain sent out in the trains.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brig. Gen., Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
In the Field, Wilderness, May 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have respectfully to represent that arrangements have been made by which it is expected that over 7,000 of our wounded in the recent battle will reach the hospitals in Washington. The ambulance service has been most efficiently conducted, but from the character of the field and the lodgment of the enemy it has been impossible to bring away all the wounded. The stretcher-bearers have been wounded, as I am informed, in several instances. In view of our leaving this section, I have requested the Surgeon-General to forward battle-field supplies for 3,000 wounded for seven days, also that rations from the Commissary Department for 3,000 wounded for seven days, and such medical officers as the Surgeon-General could spare, be sent up, prepared to remain and be occupied in attention to the wounded for ten days if necessary. Supplies and officers should arrive with the train which is to be sent from Alexandria for the wounded, and reach this place in the return ambulances and wagons now being sent to Rappahannock.

I respectfully submit that if we leave this section, and are not withheld by military necessity, that corps commanders have authority to provide for collecting the wounded that remain, and having them receive necessary attention and supplies, and that the burial of the dead be also provided for by the proper department.

I am, general, with much respect, your obedient servant,

THOS. A. McPARLIN,
Surg., U. S. Army, Medical Director, Army of the Potomac.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—8.45 a. m.

All trains and wheeled vehicles with the troops will be immediately moved on the plank and pike roads south of Wilderness Run, and beyond the Brock road. Corps commanders will take measures to see that this order is carried into effect, to ascertain the new location of their trains, and see that their men are well supplied with ammunition before the trains are moved.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—11.10 a. m.

The wounded of the army will be sent to Washington via Rappahannock Station with as little delay as practicable, under the direction of the chief quartermaster and medical director. Major-General Sheridan, commanding Cavalry Corps, will furnish a sufficient escort for the train conveying the wounded, which it is estimated will embrace 400 ambulances and a like number of wagons. The cavalry escort will only go to Rappahannock Station, from which point the wounded can be transported by railroad.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864.

The commanding general has directed that the ambulances and wagon trains conveying the wounded accompany the army instead of proceeding to Rappahannock Station, as heretofore ordered. These trains are placed under the charge of Captain Jones, assistant quartermaster, and together with the escorts furnished by Major-General Sheridan, will follow the route of the general trains via Chancellorsville.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—3 p. m.

The following movements are ordered for to-day and to-night:

1. The trains of the Sixth Corps authorized to accompany the troops will be moved at 4 p. m. to Chancellorsville and parked on the left of the road, and held ready to follow the Sixth Corps during the night march.

2. The trains of the Fifth Corps authorized to accompany the troops will be moved at 5 p. m. to Chancellorsville, following the trains of the Sixth Corps and parking with them, and held ready to follow those trains in the movement to-night.

3. The trains of the Second Corps authorized to accompany the troops will be moved at 6 p. m. to Chancellorsville and park on the right of the road, and held ready to move at the same hour with the other trains by way of the Furnaces to Todd's Tavern, keeping clear of the Brock road, which will be used by the troops.

4. Corps commanders will send escorts with these trains.

5. The Reserve Artillery will move at 7 o'clock, by way of Chancellorsville, Alrich's, and Piney Branch Church, to the intersection of the road from Piney Branch Church to Spotsylvania Court-House and the road from Alsop's to Block house, and park to the rear on the last-named road, so as to give room for the Sixth Corps.

6. At 8.30 p. m. Major-General Warren, commanding the Fifth Corps, will move to Spotsylvania Court-House by way of the Brock road and Todd's Tavern.

7. At 8.30 p. m. Major-General Sedgwick, commanding Sixth Corps, will move by the pike and plank roads to Chancellorsville, where he will be joined by the authorized trains of his own corps and those of the Fifth Corps; thence by way of Alrich's and Piney Branch Church to the intersection of the road from Piney Branch Church to Spotsylvania Court-House and the road from Alsop's to Block house. The train of the Fifth Corps will then join its corps at Spotsylvania Court-House.

8. Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps, will move to Todd's Tavern by the Brock road, following the Fifth Corps closely.

9. Headquarters during the movement will be along the route of the Fifth and Second Corps, and at the close of the movement near the Sixth Corps.

10. The pickets of the Fifth and Sixth Corps will be withdrawn at 1 a. m., and those of the Second Corps at 2 a. m., and will follow the routes of their respective corps.

11. The cavalry now under the command of Colonel Hammond will be left by General Sedgwick at the Old Wilderness Tavern, and, upon being informed by General Hancock of the withdrawal of his corps and pickets, will follow that corps.

12. Corps commanders will see that the movements are made with punctuality and promptitude.

13. Major-General Sheridan, commanding Cavalry Corps, will have a sufficient force on the approaches from the right to keep the corps commanders advised in time of the appearance of the enemy.

14. It is understood that General Burnside's command will follow the Sixth Corps.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT RICHARDSON, VA., *May* 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Yours of 4th instant is received. There are only five Coehorns now at arsenal, but the rest are expected very soon, and fifty have been ordered with all possible speed. I have ordered experiments with the light 12-pounder gun as a mortar to-day, and will report results as soon as obtained. The Ordnance Department has

an abundant supply of ammunition for them on hand. I send by this mail a copy of heavy artillery, which contains an addition to the old range table prepared by General Barry, giving the best rifle ranges known to me; also a similar table prepared by Captain Treadwell, Ordnance Department. I inclose a table of experiments on the new-model 10-inch mortar, to show the difference between the Gomer and elliptical chamber; also a copy of a report of some experiments with spherical case from a 10-inch mortar, which are so successful that I have ordered a large supply of 12-pounder spherical case balls for our train. I also think of taking two 12-pounder Whitworths along. They make elegant sharpshooting to dismount guns. They are very light, and may be of service for such special uses. The following is the present condition of my train afloat: 44-inch—18 guns, 30 carriages, 30 implements, 30 platforms, 6,520 rounds; 30-pounders—10 guns, 20 carriages, 10 implements, 20 platforms, 5,025 rounds; 10-inch mortars—10 guns, 10 carriages, 10 implements, 10 platforms, 2,000 projectiles; 8-inch mortars—20 guns, 9 carriages, 20 implements, 2,000 projectiles; 8-inch siege howitzers—10 guns, 4 carriages; Coehorns—3,796 projectiles; 100-pounders—6 guns, 6 carriages, 1,400 projectiles; 1,250 barrels powder, 1 battery wagon, 1 forge, 4 sling carts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, *May 7*, 1864.

General H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade,
Near Navy-Yard, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I am here at the station. The army has passed, and I have swung the bridge to this side. Have not received any orders from General Burnside, and have had no means of communicating to you. My rations are out, and I am obliged to be on the guard night and day to protect our bridge. I send this by a train going to Washington.

I remain, your obedient servant,

H. V. SLOSSON,
Captain Company D, Fifteenth New York Volunteers.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., May 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK, U. S. Volunteers,
Commanding Second Corps
(Through Commanding General Army of the Potomac):

GENERAL: Your application of the 1st instant for permission to ride in a spring wagon until your wound is healed has been duly submitted. In reply I have to respectfully to inform you that the decision upon this and the similar cases is left to Major-General Meade, and the Department sees no objection to the privilege being granted you.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864. (Received 4.30 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Picket officers' reports agree that the enemy in my front, or a portion of it, commenced moving to the extreme left of my line about 6 last evening. The commands given to the enemy's infantry could be heard and the noise of artillery. General Barlow, commanding the left, thinks they are massing opposite him, and expects an attack in the morning. If you hear heavy artillery firing you may infer that my left is engaged. It is of the greatest importance that I have at my disposal troops to strengthen this point. The ground there is clear and the enemy have fine positions for artillery. Inclosed is a sketch* made for me yesterday. The ground at the point marked "A" commands nearly all in my front. A battery was used against me there to-day.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—4.40 a. m. (Received 6 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK, *Comdg. Second Corps:*

Your dispatch of this night is just received (at 4.30 a. m). The major-general commanding directs me to say that he has just directed General Sedgwick to keep General Getty's division in reserve to be sent to you or elsewhere as may be most required. At present the position of General Getty is not known to him; that in the event of pressing necessity you must call on General Burnside for support,† which he or some part of your own line may afford.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—5.30 a. m. (Received 6.10 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK, *Comdg. Second Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to inquire whether you have not Stevenson's command and Robinson's two brigades to support you. It is questionable whether he will be able to send you re-enforcements.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—6.10 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Received your dispatch of 5.30 o'clock. I have Robinson's two brigades and Stevenson's command. I shall do the best with what I have without asking for re-enforcements, except in case I can advantageously use them. I do not know that I shall require any.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

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*Not found.

†See dispatch as quoted in Part I, p. 355.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 7, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have had an officer 1 mile out on the Orange plank road this morning in front of my position without seeing anything of the enemy. I have ordered my skirmishers to advance, and when I meet them I will report to you immediately. This does not refer to my extreme left, but I have directed my skirmishers to feel them.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

I should like to know whether the cavalry are at the Furnaces and at the junction of the Brock road from the Furnaces and at Todd's Tavern, or down the Brock road to my line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—7.45 a. m. (Received 8.30 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Burnside reports a movement of wagons during the night and indications this morning that the enemy have left a portion of his front, or are not in such force as they were yesterday. He is pushing out his skirmishers to feel them. You had better do the same along the plank road and also along the Brock road as far as they can go. Have you any connection with our cavalry on the Brock road?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—8.30 a. m. (Received 9 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

It is of the utmost importance that I should know as soon as possible what force, if any, of the enemy is on your left. Please ascertain by any means in your power. The cavalry are at Alrich's, at the Furnaces, and the crossing of the Brock road by the road from the Furnaces and directed to look to your left. There are indications of the enemy massing in front of Warren; either you or he is to be attacked, and I think he, from their abandoning the Orange plank road. Still I wish to know from your left, and it is all important that I receive information at once. What has become of the Vermont brigade, Getty's division; can you not return it to the Sixth Corps?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—9.15 a. m. (Received 9.40 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The Sixtieth Ohio and the Seventy-ninth New York Infantry belong to General Burnside's command and are now on his extreme left and your right; please transfer the control of them to General Burnside. There is no indication that I can hear of the enemy showing toward our right or taking advantage of General Sedgwick's falling back. I am anxiously waiting for intelligence from your command on the Brock road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—9.15 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

There is some slight picket-firing in front and on the left of the plank road, and a line of skirmishers reported having been seen. I am not certain that it is a fact. I am pushing my skirmishers in every direction up the Brock road and the country road south. —— companies and two regiments deployed up the plank road. One officer of General Birney reports having seen up the plank road from the skirmish line a line of the enemy, facing the plank road, but General Birney does not credit it. I will soon know the truth, and will send you accurate information. There is a line of breastworks (I send a sketch* showing it) on the plank road about a mile or a mile and a quarter to the front occupied by the enemy. One of our sharpshooters has just been killed there.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—9.40 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

My pickets connect with Willcox's division, Ninth Corps. This line is a continuation of line of battle of Ninth Corps, said to be a quarter of a mile distant. I will relieve the Vermont brigade, unless something develops here immediately. I have ordered those regiments of General Burnside to report as directed. I have sent for the guide, and he will be sent, if here. The cavalry on the Brock road have not connected with our infantry, which is at the angle of the road connecting with the Furnaces. I should have had more information from the front had I known this; but I understood from Colonel Wadsworth (who is here) that the cavalry is only three-fourths of a mile from my infantry. I am yet in doubt whether that rebel rifle-pit isn't a reserve of a picket, although they had no picket out, and my man was shot from the breast-work.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

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*Not found.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I have information from a scout, who says he was within hearing distance of the rebel lines, that a movement of infantry to our left took place last night. A deserter from the Fifth South Carolina, Hoodʼs division, reports that he heard from some comrades he saw this morning, that his division had moved "by the right flank." I give you these items for what they may be worth.

Your obedient servant,

WINFʼD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—11.10 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

Our infantry are moving ahead carefully on the road. The enemy have two guns, with some support, but are retiring before us, disputing the way somewhat.

WINFʼD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 7, 1864—11.10 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

The skirmishers on the plank road are still advancing. The enemy have one gun on the road, which the brigade advancing will endeavor to take. A regiment has been sent out on the same road where a company was driven in (cross-road from Brockʼs to Catharpin). The brigade on the plank road has just opened with musketry, with a lull immediately. The regiment referred to above has passed out of sight, driving the enemyʼs skirmishers before them through the woods.

WINFʼD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—11.25 a. m.

General WILLIAMS, *A. A. G., Army of the Potomac:*

General Birney reports that he has pressed the enemy until he has found a line of breast-works occupied by a full line of battle. The skirmishers are still standing, but he has withdrawn the brigade. The enemy had a full battery in these intrenchments, with which they opened. Nothing was seen of General Burnside on the right. I suppose this is the line of battle that was seen this morning facing the other way. General Birney reports this intrenched position about 2 miles from the cross-roads. I have not thought it proper to push the matter further until I heard from you, or knew what was going on upon the other road.

WINFʼD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

General Birney has slowly retired without being followed.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

The line of battle reported by General Birney is a mile out, instead of 2, as before reported. Captain Briscoe, aide-de-camp of Major-General Birney, in this advance had four horses shot under him. The enemy have piled up a number of our small-arms and left them so.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: General Longstreet was undoubtedly wounded yesterday. Reports from prisoners agree on this. One heard his brigade commander tell Stuart that Longstreet was shot through the shoulder. General Gibbon is of the opinion that the enemy are massing to our left, or moving to our left, from what he could gather.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general directs that you return all the troops you have serving with you and not belonging to your corps to their respective commands as soon as practicable. This order is to include the two brigades of General Robinson's division, and General Rice's brigade, Fifth Corps.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—2.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

When I send home the troops that belong to other commands shall I close to the right or to the left? All the troops of the Second Corps are on the left of the plank road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

My men have two days' rations from to-morrow morning. Do you wish that I should issue to-night to fill up the knapsacks and haver-

sacks, so as to empty the wagons for the transportation of the wounded? The rations required for this purpose are with the general trains of the army.

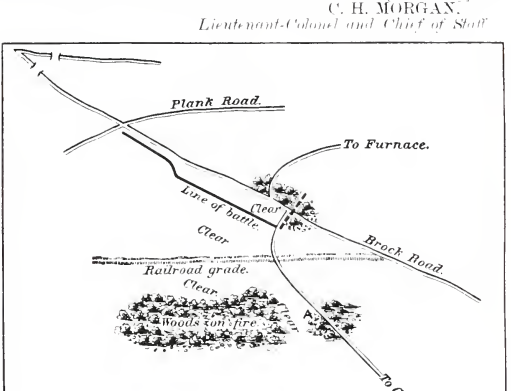
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 7, 1864—3.45 p. m.

[General W. S. HANCOCK:]

GENERAL: Colonel Miles has advanced a skirmish line into the woods, say 1 mile. The colonel commanding reports no enemy except squads who were seen setting fire to the woods and fences. The whole of Miles' front is covered by a dense smoke and the fire would prevent our advance. The cavalry who connected with Miles has moved, so the connection is lost. See sketch inside [following].

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.



HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

You will immediately detach a division of your corps to proceed to the vicinity of Hawkins' Church, or where the Reserve Artillery is, and accompany and escort the Reserve. This is urgent, as reliable information indicates the enemy having sent a force to the Rapidan fords. Hawkins' Church is on the Chancellorsville pike.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—5.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Received your dispatch by Captain Humphreys. I have relieved all regiments of other corps. We have driven up the enemy's right to-day along the railroad until the enemy's works were discovered, the right resting about 500 yards the other side of the railroad. It was occupied by a line which would have given way before a line of battle, but not less. Colonel Miles, commanding brigade of First Division, examined it and then retired. In General Birney's reconnaissance this morning the loss was 60 killed and wounded. This p. m. quite a number of casualties occurred in the First and Second Divisions. Reports not received. I have not yet obtained full reports of casualties in these operations. General Gibbon's official report is about 1,800, of which 600 are missing.

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—5.40 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Received your dispatch by Major Riddle, aide-de-camp. General Birney's division has been ordered to proceed, being the one nearest the road.

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the division of the Second Corps sent to the Reserve Artillery will be ordered to join you at Todd's Tavern from Piney Branch Church.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—6 p. m. (Received 6.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that if, in your judgment, sending a division to the Reserve Artillery will weaken your line too much, you can send a part of the division only.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 7, 1864—6.10 p. m.

GENERAL: Your dispatch as regards General Birney is received. I understand from it that it is not intended that I should give the order, but that the order will come from headquarters of the army.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

The rear of General Birney's division has passed.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

SIR: Your dispatch in regard to sending only a part of Birney's division was received too late. The head of the column is probably there now. I have closed in to the right, making the line complete, but in order to do so have been obliged to abandon the strong ground on the left, which commands the Brock road, but the skirmishers are so thrown around the enemy and so far advanced that unless an assault is made from a knowledge, probably, of the nature of our movement they cannot take advantage of it. If they do we cannot pass on that road.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—6.15 p. m. (Received 6.45 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding says you may recall the whole of the division sent to the Artillery Reserve.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 7, 1864—6.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

SIR: Received your dispatch by Major Riddle. I have sent for Birney's division to come back.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

The command will move to-night on the Brock road toward Todd's Tavern, following closely the Fifth Corps. General Barlow, commanding the First Division, will move immediately after the

rear of the Fifth Corps, and will be followed closely by the Second and Fourth Divisions. The reserve battery and foot artillery will move between the Second and Fourth Divisions. The batteries will be assigned to divisions as required by existing orders. The pickets will be withdrawn at 3 a. m. on the 8th, under charge of Colonel Beaver, corps officer of the day. Each division commander will send the officer charged with the duty of withdrawing the division pickets to report at 8 p. m. at these headquarters to Colonel Beaver for instructions. Division commanders will give the necessary instructions to cause their commands to rest clear of the road, but in the rifle-pits, during the passing of the Fifth Corps. It is not supposed that the corps will move before 11 p. m. Commanders are cautioned against allowing unusual fires to be made by the troops.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—6 p. m.

General Barlow will leave his skirmishers on the same line where they now are; will connect on the right and left with other troops, as the case may be. The troops to-night will sleep close to the rifle-pits, as other troops may be required to pass by the road.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 7, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Second Corps:

GENERAL: General Barlow sent two companies down the Brock road 2 miles, opened communication with General Custer, who has this morning been engaged a little with the enemy's cavalry. He also sent half a regiment on the Catharpin road, which encountered the rebel cavalry, about a regiment, with a couple of guns. The whole of the enemy's force retired.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.] HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
MAJOR GENERAL HANCOCK'S COMMAND,
May 7, 1864.

The men will stand to arms at 4.30 a. m. The following dispositions will be made as soon as possible, commencing on the right at the plank road: Each division or brigade commander, acting independently, will place about three-fourths of his command in the front line of rifle-pits, and about one-fourth of his entire command

in the second line, so placed as to support any portion of his line. Commanders who by this arrangement are deprived of their positions in line will mass their troops in rear of their present position and report at these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. BIRNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 7, 1864—12 noon.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: My reconnaissance reached the rifle-pits or barricades just beyond the extreme advance yesterday. The line, judging by its volley, was not a very strong one. The artillery was a section of horse artillery—I thought small. I did not think it well to attack without General Burnside co-operated. He does not seem to be very near the plank road with his left. There is a very good position, considering the woody character of the country, parallel to the works, which may be a mere road barricade.

Respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that you proceed with your division at once up the plank road to Hawkins' Church (on the Chancellorsville pike), to escort and accompany the Artillery Reserve of the army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 7, 1864—7.10 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

You will please march your command back to position previously held by you; accelerate your march if you hear firing in front.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

A. W. ANGEL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 7, 1864—5 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My command with me holds the line from General Burnside's right to the pike. All except the left of it intrenched. I have with me Crawford's and Griffin's divisions entire, Baxter's brigade in two

detached pieces, the engineer troops, and Kitching's heavy artillery, and Colonel Marshall's command. The latter is posted on my left in a weak line, which I am going to strengthen with Crawford's division. Colonel Marshall might be directed to report to General Burnside again if he belongs to his command. There is beside the above, the Fourth Division, commanded by General Cutler, in reserve behind General Burnside, where General Meade ordered him. I am getting my troops arranged and directed bridges to be built across the run to communicate better with the rear. The accompanying diagram* will explain. I can hardly be said to have any troops to spare for any other point just now. The command is a little disjointed by yesterday afternoon's movement, and I am getting the pieces together in order. Will you send me the part of Baxter's brigade I sent you last night?

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Two brigades of Robinson's division are with General Birney.

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—5.50 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I am replacing the troops not regularly belonging to this corps in the line by General Griffin's. It is these troops that cause the firing which takes place occasionally, and which there is probably no occasion for. Will you let me know if you have sent that portion of a brigade I sent to you back to me?

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 7, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Keep the troops referred to in your dispatch until they are needed somewhere. Have you any skirmishers or pickets out in that direction? If not, you might use some of them in that way.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 7, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

I sent orders to the Baxter troops you sent here last night to report to you about half an hour ago. Would have sent them back last night but every one was busy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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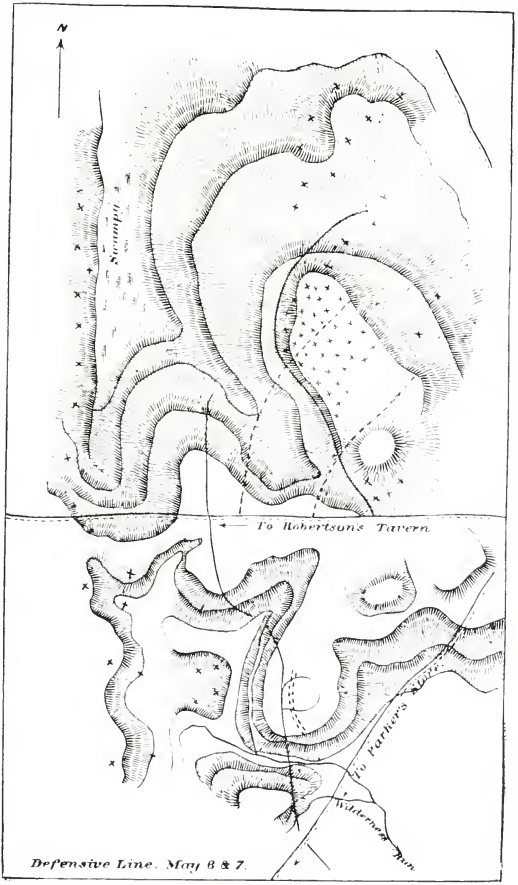
*See p. 497.


N
Swamp
To Robertson's Tavern
To Parker's
Wilderness Run
Defensive Line. May 6 & 7.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you communicate with General Burnside and exchange Colonel Marshall's command for General Cutler's, if the change in the positions of these troops can be made without serious inconvenience.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—6.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The artillery firing this morning was at the enemy's line of skirmishers, which pushed down the pike to near our intrenchments and fired a few shots. Shall I not have Griffin drive them back?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

General H.:

Dispatch concerning Colonel Marshall received. I will ascertain about this change at once. I think at present we need more troops at this point if they can be spared from General Hancock.

G. K. W.

MAY 7, 1864—6.45 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Certainly. Drive the enemy's skirmishers back. Hold as much ground in your front as you can with your skirmishers.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 7, 1864—[7 a. m.].

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Dispatch just received from General Sedgwick, who states that the enemy's infantry are advancing up the plank road, and has opened on him with a battery.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

General Sedgwick reports from General Ricketts that the enemy are moving down the pike in force, and that his line there is thin. The major-general commanding directs that you re-enforce it temporarily should it be needed. General Sedgwick is directed to re-enforce there from Getty.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 7, 1864—7 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Major Roebling, just in from the front, says the rebels are cheering as if in considerable force in the direction toward Parker's Store and to the right. I have informed General Burnside. It is too smoky to see anything. I have received your dispatch in relation to report of General Ricketts. General Griffin has pushed out his skirmishers. I have directed him to keep firing down the pike and along its edge with artillery, to prevent the enemy using it in the smoke.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 7, 1864—7 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I will send up General Cutler's command, about 2,400 strong, to help General Sedgwick, if he wants them. I think it is the enemy's policy to attack our right flank, and think we should be prepared for it, so that troops should be sent up from the left at once. They won't assault there again, I think.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864.

General WARREN:

Your dispatch received. General Meade has ordered Ricketts to send back Getty's brigade to Sedgwick's right. You need not send Cutler, but hold him ready for supporting where required.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

MAY 7, 1864—7.40 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have no doubt the enemy is forwarding a heavy force along my front. The high ground toward Parker's Store commands and enfilades my front, and I expect the heaviest kind of shelling from that direction. We are not strong here, commensurate with the importance of the position, and if the whole army lies quiet and they concentrate upon us we may be driven out, and in this fog and smoke we could not reform unless a provisional line is formed on the other side of Wilderness Run facing west, near the edge of the wood. Batteries of Reserve Artillery might do this, and the heavy artillery move with them that I do not want (Colonel Kitching's I mean). The belief is that the enemy are all leaving General Burnside's front. May they not also be leaving General Hancock's, and should he not as he has such a large force make a determined attack there to see? You know how much more important our right is to our army just now than the left.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch received. Colonel Comstock with other engineer and artillery officers will select a line on the heights of Wilderness Run and put some artillery in position there.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

A report has been received from General Sedgwick that the cavalry find nothing as far as they have been out to the left of the Germanna plank road; that his infantry pickets on his right find nothing as far as they have gone. The major-general commanding desires you to push out your skirmishers to ascertain if the enemy is there.

A. A. H.

MAY 7, 1864—8 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

We have all our ammunition train just across Wilderness Run. Would it not be well to send most of it toward Chancellorsville out of this cleared space? I would so direct, but I may interfere with other trains.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864—9 a. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

Can see no movement of the enemy at Turner's. Small force in rifle-pits built yesterday. About a squadron of cavalry in line near where enemy had battery yesterday.

D. E. CASTLE,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

Enemy's infantry has just commenced moving rapidly to our right. Heavy column of dust in rear of them.

CASTLE,
Signal Officer.

MAY 7, 1864—10.50 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have not yet got a report from Griffin's demonstration. He has opened a few pieces, probably down the road. The enemy opened with one or two guns at least at long range to my left. Their direc-

tion is south 40° west from here. Their shots can do us no harm, and indicate, it seems to me, that the enemy is not in force between here and there, as the balls would hurt their own men; if so, General Burnside has opened one or two shots, I suppose in reply. I hear a few cannon shots about south 20° east, apparently General Hancock, along the plank road. I will report as fast as I hear from my front. The orders were given to advance promptly.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—There has been skirmishing all along my front nearly all the morning.

G. K. W.

MAY 7, 1864—12 m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Brisk musketry has begun in General Hancock's front at 11.15 a. m. The enemy's shell southwest from here occasionally reach my headquarters.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 7, 1864—4.45 p. m.

General WARREN:

The working party have retired from the pits, and have bivouacked in two lines 200 yards to the rear. The enemy have shifted two guns from left to our right, so as to command more fully the Parker's Store road. No other change.

Very respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—5.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you throw your pickets and skirmishers well out to the front. He directs also that you relieve all the heavy artillery with you by troops from your own command and send them to report here.

Your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 7, 1864—6 a. m.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

The commanding general desires that when the heavy artillery moves out that you direct them to occupy the ground in the open field to the rear of where they are now. Have them mass up, and as much as possible in hollows.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you relieve the engineer troops as quickly as you can by troops of your own command. Tell Captain Mendell to come here at once with his command, and have Colonel Spaulding follow with his men as soon as he is relieved. The major-general commanding directs you to take command of that front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

In reply to the number of lines I have in my front, I would state that if the heavy artillery leaves there will be one line only for a front of six regiments. The balance of the command has two lines.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

WILDERNESS, [*May 7, 1864*].

General GRIFFIN:

I have sent an officer to bring the portion of Baxter's brigade that was behind the breast-works here to me if you have relieved them, or as soon as you have relieved them.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 7, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Commanding officer of the Sixteenth Michigan, on picket, reports that the line is nearly at the open field and that the enemy has withdrawn one of the flank batteries. The skirmish line of the enemy is very heavy.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN:

A brigade of the Fourth Division has been sent to relieve the heavy artillery brigade, which is wanted with the Reserve Artillery. An officer of my staff has been sent to direct the change in person, and the commander of the new brigade is authorized to receive your orders.

By command:

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 7, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

Send back the heavy artillery battalion you have at once, so that I can send it as a guard for the train.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., FIFTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Captain MERVINE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Division, Fifth Corps:

CAPTAIN: The officer commanding my skirmish-line reports the enemy forming line of battle in our front. Can hear their commands. The line on the right of the pike is a very weak one, and as the artillery has but little chance to protect their own front, I am afraid the line will give way under a rushing attack.

Very respectfully,

JOS. J. BARTLETT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—5.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you throw your pickets and skirmishers well out to the front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LINE OF BATTLE,
Near Locy's House, [May 7]. 1864—7.55 a. m.

[Colonel LOCKE:]

COLONEL: I desire to inform the general that the gap I was directed to fill upon the withdrawal of the artillery regiments has been filled by General Griffin's troops, who connect on their left with troops of the Second Division, Fifth Corps. I have not moved my command, as the line is continuous.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Third Division.

MAY 7, 1864—8.15. a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I have sent Major Roebling to have you relieve the portion of the line held by the Second Brigade, of Second Division (General Baxter's); it is but a small force.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD:

General Hancock and General Burnside report the enemy have left their front. General Sedgwick finds none on his extreme right. The enemy is believed to be retreating, with only his rear guard in our front. General Griffin is going to push them with a heavy skirmish line near the pike. I wish you would do so without waiting for any connection right or left on your own front. Put in about 400 men, with flankers, so that you need not be surrounded if they fall back. Tell your men we believe the enemy is retreating, and make this demonstration at once.

Respectfully.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
May 7, 1864—10.20 a. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: The movement indicated is in progress. About half an hour ago I ordered a few riflemen out to feel their way ahead of my skirmish line. They are now out. I have no report yet. There is still skirmishing on my right.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Third Division.

HEADQUARTERS LINE OF BATTLE,
Near Locust's, May 7, 1864—12 m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: The skirmishers sent out encountered the enemy about half a mile distant on the Parker's Store road. The enemy have a battery in the first open space about three-quarters of a mile from our position. The enemy advanced to meet my skirmish line. I have directed them to fall slowly back to their old position, without exposing the left of the line near First Division.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Third Division.

HEADQUARTERS LINE OF BATTLE,
Near Locust's, May 7, 1864—12.50 p. m.
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have reports from my regiment. The First Rifles and the Sixth Regiment were sent out, the latter acting as flankers to the former. They met the enemy's line of skirmishers a short distance this side of the open to the drove them in upon their supports and, finally, into their works, developing the enemy's line.

The enemy opened with grape and canister, wounding an officer of the Sixth Regiment. The enemy is reported as at work on intrenchments to the right, and to be in considerable force. A number of the enemy is reported killed, our men having advanced on them. The Rifle Regiment had 25 men wounded, 2 mortally.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

MAY 7, 1864—7 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

If the dash of the enemy has forced back your skirmish line so as to at all expose our movement to-night, force them back again. Report to me as soon as possible.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. PENNSYLVANIA RESERVE VOL. CORPS.
May 7, 1864—5 40 p. m.

[General S. W. CRAWFORD:]

GENERAL: Colonel Talley, commanding First Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, has withdrawn his regiment. He was unable to advance as far as the first open field on Parker's Store road, and reports that he came up to a strong line of the enemy's skirmishers, and that he could hear a body of the enemy maneuvering in the rear of the skirmishers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. A. McCOY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS.
May 7, 1864—6 a. m.

Brigadier-General CUTLER,
Commanding Fourth Division.

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send any men you may have with you belonging to General Rice's brigade to General Rice, and send word to General Rice to send any men with him belonging to the other brigades of your division to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—There are some of your straggers [illegible] who will be sent.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FOURTH DIV., FIFTH CORPS.
May 7, 1864.

General CUTLER:

DEAR GENERAL: I am in charge of the front line of works; have detachments of the First, Second, and Third Brigades of our divis-

ion. I am informed that a large number of men of the Second and Third Brigades are near your brigade. Can you not send them forward to me? I have 405 men, who have all been severely engaged yesterday. We are near the cross-road (to the left).

Yours, truly,

J. W. HOFMANN,
Colonel Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE:

SIR: Shall I send Colonel Hofmann the men he asks? As I was ordered by General Meade to report to General Warren I do not feel at liberty to send them without his permission. I think the men here will do good work this morning if needed.

Respectfully,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: To prevent any misapprehension as to why I came out of the woods yesterday morning [*sic*]. When they broke the men started back on the route we went in. I and all my staff commenced rallying them, but they were within half a mile of here before I got anything like order restored. I dispatched two staff officers to find General Wadsworth and take his orders; they both ran into the rebel skirmishers. I at the same time saw the division flag with horsemen and men rallying around it, and moved to it, supposing it was division headquarters. I moved to it and found only two of his aides with his orderlies. I immediately went to your headquarters for instructions. I could have moved the men I had rallied to the plank road, and should have done so but for the above-stated facts. I was very much mortified at finding myself separated from the column, and feared that there might be some misapprehension about it.

Very respectfully,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 22, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

I came across this report recently, and the circumstances having fallen under the eye of General Meade I have thought it right to forward this explanation even at this late date. It will be seen that it was written May 7, 1864.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK:

I cannot understand the non-receipt of intelligence from your cavalry. Single horsemen are constantly arriving from the ford, signifying that the plank road is open, and ample time has elapsed for them to have taken the position assigned them. Please send a staff officer to the cavalry and urge upon the commanding officer the importance of sending in prompt intelligence of their progress. Also feel with your pickets, and ascertain if you can anything of the position of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The commanding general directs that if there is a probability of the enemy being on the plank road in front of the cavalry you have sent out, that you send a body of infantry to support the cavalry. You can await the return of Colonel McIntosh's cavalry to ascertain positively whether this information you have received is reliable. The commanding general considers that you could have ascertained whether the enemy were on the road through the two cavalry regiments you have under your command.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I sent the general commanding all the reports I received from the commanding officer of the cavalry in front. I could not judge how reliable they were. My infantry was marching from 12 midnight till daylight. Since that time they have been engaged in throwing up rifle-pits. A brigade is now ready to go out to support the cavalry, if necessary. My infantry pickets now reach from the Rapidan to General Warren's right.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—10.15 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The colonel commanding the Twenty-second New York Cavalry reports that his skirmishers are now engaging the cavalry of the enemy about 1 mile from the Rapidan.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
One and a half Miles from Germanna Ford,
May 7, 1864—12.45 [p.] m.

General SEDGWICK:

The road is all open to Germanna Ford. One battalion of the Fifth New York Cavalry crossed the ford this morning at 7 a. m. They came from Rappahannock Station, and left that station at 2.30 this morning. The Third New Jersey Cavalry was on the north side of the river at Germanna Ford. Everything perfectly quiet, and no sign of an enemy on the left of the road. Will be back soon.

J. B. McINTOSH,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Col. S. J. Crooks, Twenty-second New York Cavalry, sends a report that he finds cavalry pickets of the enemy on the plank road near the point where the Ely's Ford road intersects it. Also that a short distance down the river on both sides large columns of dust can be seen.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I don't know who Colonel Crooks, Twenty-second New York Cavalry, is, except that he reports himself senior officer of cavalry, and that he was about 2 miles this side of the Rapidan when he sent word in about the columns of dust. He has just sent another (verbal) report that his skirmishers were engaging the enemy's 1 mile this side of the Rapidan.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General.

Colonel McIntosh, who has just come here, reports he has been moving from Ely's to Germanna Ford. I now send a squadron to Germanna from here. Your dispatch received and contents communicated to Colonel Crooks.

J. S.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
Commanding Sixth Corps.

The major-general commanding directs me to transmit to you the accompanying orders for your information, with request that you will have them forwarded to Colonels Hammond and Purington.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—2 p. m.

Col. SAMUEL J. CROOKS,
Commanding Twenty-second New York Cavalry.

COLONEL: You will consider yourself under arrest for having sent false information in relation to the enemy. You will turn your command over to the next in rank, directing that officer to report to Colonel Hammond, commanding Fifth New York Cavalry, for orders.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—2 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH NEW YORK CAVALRY:

You will take command of the Twenty-second New York and the Second Ohio Cavalry, and with them, under Major-General Sedgwick's orders, you will cover the road from General Sedgwick's right to the Rapidan River, picketing and patrolling all roads leading into the plank road, and patrolling on the other side of the Rapidan, keeping General Sedgwick and myself promptly advised of any movement of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—2 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND OHIO CAVALRY:

You will consider yourself under the orders of Colonel Hammond, Fifth New York Cavalry, while on detached duty under my command.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

A force of infantry is reported by the cavalry pickets as advancing on the plank road. About four guns have been opened on our cavalry.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—2.50 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK:

A division of General Burnside will be sent to assist you as soon as possible. The commanding general directs that you send out some reliable officer and ascertain the nature of the force approaching.

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

The corps will move at 8.30 p. m. by the pike and plank road to Chancellorsville, where the authorized trains of the Fifth and Sixth Corps will join, thence by way of Alrich's and Piney Branch Church to Spotsylvania Court-House, and the road from Alsop's to Block house. General Wright will take the advance with First Division and one battery. General Ricketts and the artillery will follow. General Neill with Second Division and one battery will bring up the rear, and at Chancellorsville will detail a brigade with four pieces without caissons as a rear guard to cover the trains. The pickets will be withdrawn at 1 a. m. and will follow the corps. Division commanders will take measures to have this done promptly and in concert.

By command of Major-General Sedgwick:

M. T. MCMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

This division will move at 8.30 this p. m. by way of pike and plank road to Chancellorsville, where the authorized trains of the Fifth and Sixth Corps will join, thence by way of Alrich's and Piney Branch Church to the intersection of the road from Piney Branch Church to Spotsylvania Court-House, and the road from Alsop's to Block house. Troops of artillery without caissons will follow the advance guard, the remainder of the battery will follow the leading brigade. Pickets will be withdrawn at 1 a. m. and will follow the corps. The division officer of the day will take measures to have this done promptly and in concert. The authorized trains, joining at Chancellorsville, will follow the division, unless otherwise ordered from corps headquarters. Troops will move by the left flank.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864—7 p. m.

Order of march this p. m.: Second Brigade, Third Brigade, Fourth Brigade, First Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Wilderness Tavern, May 7, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

The officer in command of pickets in front of our left, connecting with Second Corps, reports that the wagons and troops of the enemy in front were moving quite busily during the night, he thinks to the south. No rebels in front this morning. Some movements have been ordered from our front that will draw the fire of the enemy if they occupy the ground they occupied yesterday, or the ground in the advance of it. A prisoner reports that Longstreet and Hill were present yesterday in our front; that Jenkins was killed, and Longstreet wounded.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General, Commanding Ninth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 7, 1864—5.15 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

General Hancock reports indications of enemy moving in heavy force on his left. In case he is attacked you will render him assistance, either by an advance from your present front, or leaving your line entirely and moving by the left flank to the point of attack. In the absence of further instructions, you will exercise your best judgment which will be best. After the falling back last night of Sedgwick's right, fearing your colored troops might be cut off, I ordered them up here. They are now in front of my quarters. If there does not prove to be absolute need of retaining them here by 10 a. m., you may order them to Chancellorsville, where the trains have been ordered.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR WILDERNESS TAVERN,
May 7, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

General Grant desires that if you have not already done so, that you at once strongly fortify the hill where your personal headquarters were most of the day yesterday.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 7, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

It is definitely ascertained that Longstreet's corps—at least two divisions of it—is at Spotsylvania Court-House. General Warren's corps has engaged it near there, and the whole of General Sedgwick's

corps has been ordered forward, one division of which has joined General Warren, with a view to crushing Longstreet, if possible. This leaves no troops at this point.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 7, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Sedgwick's corps will move immediately after dark. You will follow immediately upon his rear, taking the same road, stopping at the Piney Branch Church. These movements must be made with the greatest promptitude possible. Send your cavalry by the Brock road, where it will be relieved by Meade, a part of whose forces go out on that road, and the necessary orders will be given it by him.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

NEAR WILDERNESS TAVERN,
May 7, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE
(or senior officer present),
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that you at once send either Potter's or Willcox's division to re-enforce Sedgwick on the plank road.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Near Wilderness Tavern, May 7, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires me to say that you will take your wounded men with you instead of sending them to Rappahannock Station.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The enemy have brought up their artillery. I am pretty heavily engaged. I have ordered up General Stevenson.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY,
Near Wilderness Tavern, May 7, 1864—7.30 a. m.

General FERRERO:

Lieutenant-General Grant directs that you move your colored division along to Dowdall's Tavern and Chancellorsville; a brigade at each place to cover our trains now assembling between those points. You will move by the turnpike and inform General Burnside that you have received this order. On reaching Dowdall's Tavern you will report by a staff officer to Major-General Sheridan, commanding Cavalry Corps, for further orders.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

I think it proper to inform you that the cavalry sent out on the plank road (Fifth New York and Second Ohio Cavalry) toward Germanna Ford, and to picket from there in the direction of the enemy, have reported no indication of the enemy within a mile of the plank road. Still the gap from the Sixth Corps to the river is open and should be watched.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

I sent a brigade of cavalry to fill up the gap mentioned in your note of this a. m. They turned off the pike at the Widow Jones' house and went around in your rear. Inasmuch as you have two regiments on the road already, will it be necessary for me to keep a whole brigade there?

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps.

You are already authorized by existing instructions to make such offensive operations against the enemy as consistent with the security of the trains. A division of colored troops having been ordered to you to assist in the protection of the trains, you are again authorized to detach any portion of your command for offensive operations, cutting the enemy's communications, &c.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to forward the following dispatch just received from General Custer's headquarters, from one of General Torbert's aides:

HEADQUARTERS,
Junction Furnace and Brock Roads, May 7, 1864—12 m.

GENERAL: General Custer has had a sharp fight on the left, toward Todd's Tavern, and drove the enemy handsomely. The general's position is close to this, a little in advance of that of yesterday at same hour. Heaton's battery in same place. General Custer is anxious to know where General Gregg is. The firing has almost ceased for the present. All has gone well. The cavalry he engaged was Fitzhugh Lee's. There was a portion of a Southern (rebel) battery (probably two guns) in position at this side of Todd's Tavern. Communication is reported open with the infantry left.

JOHN J. COPPINGER,
Captain, Fourteenth Infantry, Aide-de-Camp.

The Sixth U. S. Cavalry, sent to United States Ford and roads leading to our left and toward Fredericksburg from Ely's Ford road, just returned. Found no enemy. General Gregg is now moving on Todd's Tavern, also Merritt, and will pitch into the enemy's cavalry at that place. Wilson will cover the train in front.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report that two brigades of the First Cavalry Division drove the enemy's cavalry from the Furnaces down to Todd's Tavern, a distance of 4 miles, where they show a heavy force of cavalry. I have directed them to be attacked by the First and Second Divisions of cavalry, and driven from Todd's Tavern. Will keep you posted.

Respectfully, &c.,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—12.50 p. m.

General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

The commanding general directs that the escort ordered to accompany the train conveying the wounded be ordered to report at Ely's Ford at such hour as the medical director may indicate.

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The escort, 1,300 men, ordered to accompany the trains, are on their way to Ely's Ford, and will wait there for the train. General Sheridan has gone to the front.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—2.50 p. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

The cavalry which I had out on the plank road are now being driven in by the artillery of the enemy. You must make immediate dispositions for the protection of the trains in this direction.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My headquarters I will establish to-night at or near Alrich's. I am driving the enemy's cavalry at Todd's Tavern.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that I attacked the rebel cavalry at Todd's Tavern this afternoon, and, after a sharp and hotly contested action, drove them in confusion toward Spotsylvania Court-House. Our cavalry behaved splendidly. I cannot estimate the casualties. Two brigades of General Gregg's and two of General Torbert's were engaged.

I am, very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Todd's Tavern, May 7, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The cavalry made a very handsome fight here this afternoon. We found the whole rebel cavalry here, Hampton's and Fitz-

hugh Lee's divisions, and drove them on the Spotsylvania road about 3 miles. They were very handsomely repulsed and drove on the road to Beech Grove Church. They had constructed barricades and rifle-pits, which we charged and captured. I had only four brigades engaged—Merritt's, Davies', Colonel Gregg's, and Colonel Devin's. They all behaved splendidly. I captured prisoners from Lomax's, Wickham's, Rosser's, Young's, Gordon's, and Chambliss' brigades, and killed Colonel Collins, of the Fifteenth Virginia Cavalry.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General MERRITT,
Commanding Reserve Brigade:

GENERAL: The general commanding division directs me to inform you that the First and Second Brigades have been ordered to move forward again to the positions occupied by them yesterday morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CARSWELL McCLELLAN,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Chancellorsville, Va., May 7, 1864—7.10 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

The general directs me to inform you that General Custer has just been ordered to drive the enemy's cavalry back on the Furnace road to beyond the Brock road, and to take up his old position of yesterday morning on the Brock road. If you hear any firing in his direction you will understand what it is.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

NEW YORK, *May 7*, 1864.
(Received 2.10 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Major-General Peck is here, on his way home on surgeon's certificate of disability. He will be able to take command of the troops in the city and harbor in a few days if assigned to me. I have assigned General De Trobriand to the command temporarily; he is here waiting orders.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

BERMUDA LANDING, *May* 7, 1864—1 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We got into position yesterday. Are intrenching for fear of accident to the Army of the Potomac. Sent out a reconnaissance yesterday on the Petersburg railroad. Have sent two divisions this morning to take possession of the road. Up to this moment have exceeded my most sanguine expectations. The fleet have lost a gunboat by a torpedo. The operator shot. Have telegraph communication with Jamestown Island.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 7, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Fortress Monroe:

No communication from General Grant has been received since the date of my telegram last night, nor any reliable information, except that a severe engagement took place yesterday without any decisive result. Various conflicting reports are in circulation of success and disaster on both sides, but they are mere conjectures or inventions. Fulton, of the Associated Press, applied to-day for leave to publish your dispatch to General Grant, which he says was forwarded to him from Fortress Monroe by mail. As it cannot be supposed that General Grant would desire to have official communications to him published in the newspapers without his consent, allow me to suggest the propriety of an inquiry [as to] who transmitted your dispatch to Fulton.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

BERMUDA LANDING, *May* 7, 1864.
(Received 12.10 p. m. 8th.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have made demonstration to-day on the railroad between Petersburg and Richmond, and have succeeded in destroying a portion of it, so as to break the connection. We have had some pretty severe fighting to do, but have succeeded. We hear from a rebel deserter and a citizen that Lee is dangerously wounded; Pickett also; Jones and Jenkins killed. We have no news from General Grant. If he has been in any degree successful, then can we not have here 10,000 of the reserves? They can be here in ten days after the lieutenant-general gives the order. Transportation is at Annapolis for them. If the Army of the Potomac is unsuccessful, then we want them here for the safety of the country. Please send them forward. Beauregard is in command in person. In three days our lines will be perfect. We have to strongly garrison three points on the river to save our transportation, which weakens us a good deal for a movable column. All is submitted to your judgment.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS,
Bermuda Landing, May 7, 1864.

Hon. HENRY WILSON:

MY DEAR SIR: I must take the responsibility of asking you to bring before the Senate at once the name of General Gillmore, and have his name rejected by your body. General Gillmore may be a very good engineer officer, but he is wholly useless in the movement of troops. He has been behind in every movement. He has lost twenty-four hours here in putting his line in a state of defense; but, above all, he has refused to move when ordered. I directed him to co-operate in a movement with General Smith when he went to make demonstration on the Petersburg railroad, and he failed to do so, and then sent me word that he did not obey the order for reasons that seemed good to himself, and has not deigned to give me the reasons, although he has sent me a report of his operations, or, rather, want of operations. I have known General Gillmore only since he came here, but I find many of his troops are desirous of getting away from him. I have a good corps commander here in his place. Show this to Wade, Chandler, and Fessenden, and bring the matter to vote at once. I write only for the good of the service. We have made demonstration to-day on the railroad; cut it, and are about to destroy it permanently. If we can hold on here we can drive Lee out of Virginia. His great line of supplies and operations is gone. We have been eminently successful thus far. If you desire to know exactly where we are, take map, look up Point of Rocks on the Appomattox, then look across to Farrar's Island on the James. That is our line directly on the rebel communications. We are intrenching here; will then advance from this base. Telegraph your action; time is important.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS,
Bermuda Landing, May 7, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I send you a copy of dispatch just received.* It will be necessary to put your line in posture of defense at once. Your rations will be along in time. I took your teams for the purpose of sending along your shovels; work first, eat afterward. I presume the reasons for not making the demonstration ordered were perfectly satisfactory to you. I trust they will be to me when I see them. The navy has been shelling out some pickets on the other side of the river.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the line occupied by the Tenth Army Corps yesterday afternoon is somewhat in advance

*See Stanton to Butler, May 6, 1864, p. 471.

of the one that should be permanently occupied in order to economize our force. The ground has been pretty thoroughly examined, and the examinations have extended in front of a portion of the Eighteenth Corps. I therefore submit, first, that the line occupied by the Eighteenth Corps is naturally very strong, while that of the Tenth Corps is approached in front by several converging roads, and is the only portion of the line between the James River and the Appomattox at all likely to be attacked; second, the right of the line should rest at Curtis' house, the highest bluff on James River within our picket-line, and should run thence to the head of the ravine, which lies in front of the Eighteenth Corps, accommodating itself to the ground. Of the strength of force required to be kept behind this ravine now occupied by the Eighteenth Corps I am not prepared to speak with certainty, and am not required to; third, Hatcher's house is the place for the reserves of the entire line, considering the improbability of any attempt against our left near the Appomattox; fourth, to hold the portion of the line now occupied by me against a real attack, after being thrown back as suggested, will require my entire corps until we get the intrenchments advanced.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 7, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: I have the honor to request that telegraphic communication be opened as early as practicable between this and department headquarters, and headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps, and the division headquarters of my command. If furnished with material and operators, I can supply the necessary labor to erect the proposed line. Ten miles of wire will be sufficient. If the operators for the proposed line cannot be furnished, three stations will suffice to connect headquarters Eighteenth Corps with department headquarters through these headquarters.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

You will cause one brigade of each division of your command to report to General Smith at 8 o'clock this morning for the purpose of an attack upon the line of railroad. The details should be of your best troops and under your best brigade commanders. Answer hour of execution of this order.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 7, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: I have the honor to state from information received from the front this p. m. that General Hagood with four regiments and a battery left James Island, S. C., on the 5th instant. I respectfully request that this information be furnished Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch, commanding Department of the South.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to cause one of your best brigades to report to Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith at 8 o'clock this morning. They will move in light marching order and be supplied with 60 rounds of ammunition, 40 in boxes and 20 on the person. They will be supplied with two days' rations in haversacks.

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

(Similar letters sent to General Turner and General Ames.)

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

Hold your command under arms.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 1. HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 7, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. First Lieut. T. E. Lewis, commanding Company I, First New York Mounted Rifles, will report with his command to Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry, commanding First Division, Tenth Army Corps.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Captain, 47th New York Vols., Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 2. HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 7, 1864.

1. The battalion of the First New York Volunteer Engineers is hereby assigned as follows. They will report without delay to the

commanding officer of the division to which they are respectively assigned: Companies E, F, and M to the First Division; Companies B and L to the Second Division; Companies D and K to the Third Division.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864—1 a. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

The attempt on the railroad failed, because the enemy resisted with unexpected strength. The place could have been carried probably, but only with a loss which General Heckman did not consider it proper to suffer for this object and risking the possible annihilation of his command. It is proposed now to renew the attempt with a force that will overcome all opposition. General Heckman reports troops brought in by rail from both directions during the fight. Colonel Dutton and Captain West, who were present, report our troops as most ably handled and behaving with the greatest gallantry. General Heckman and both these officers are confident that the opposing forces consisted of veterans, and were little, if any, inferior in numbers, their position being one of great strength, although not fortified. Unless you have bad news from the Potomac Army, I think a detail of one brigade from each division in the entire command will be sufficient to make both the feints and real attack. I agree with Colonel Dutton in thinking that a strong feint should be made at the same place, and the real attack elsewhere nearer Richmond. I recommend for the details from this command, the brigades of Generals Heckman and Burnham.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Bermuda Landing, May 7, 1864.

Major-General SMITH, *Comdg. Eighteenth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: I send you a copy of a dispatch* just received from Washington. No bad news there, but hurry up your defenses anyhow. Let there be every diligence in putting your line in posture of defense. The navy has been shelling out some pickets on the other side of the river.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General SMITH, *Comdg. Eighteenth Army Corps:*

I have ordered one brigade from each division of General Gillmore's command to report to you at 8 o'clock this morning, for the

*See Stanton to Butler, p. 471.

purpose of cutting enemy's line of communications between Richmond and Petersburg. You will cause a like force to be detailed from your command on the line, and under such division commander as you choose. Cause attack to be made.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department of Virginia, &c.:

GENERAL: Captain West succeeded in getting on the railroad with 10 men, and found himself between a company on one hand and a battalion on the other. The battalion were drawing rations. He contented himself with capturing 1 man, and withdrawing without injuring the railroad. The prisoner reports himself as belonging to a South Carolina regiment just arrived from Charleston. General Heckman's total loss to-day was 7, 1 being killed.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

I have not yet heard what General Brooks' loss is.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Steamer Greyhound:

One of my aides has just returned from General Brooks and reports that after some sharp fighting succeeded in reaching the railroad, and at the time my aide left was commencing the destruction of the road, having already cut the telegraph. His advance had reached a bridge across a creek which they were about to fire. He reported that after this was done he would return with his command. With such a meager report at present, I can only mention the names of General Brooks, General Burnham, and Colonel Dutton, the latter of whom has kept in the skirmish line all day and was engaged in overseeing the destruction of the bridge. We stand now in pressing need of rations, and of axes and artillery ammunition.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 7, 1864.

General SMITH:

A deserter captured from Richmond, and a citizen says Lee and Pickett dangerously wounded; Jones and Jenkins killed; uncertain at Richmond which got the best; say Grant fell back short distance.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
May 7, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: Inasmuch as the command to-day was a mixed command, I would respectfully request you to ask the general commanding department to issue the order giving me direction of the movement.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS,
Bermuda Landing, May 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, is directed to take command of the detached force from the Tenth and Eighteenth Army Corps, now operating toward Petersburg and Richmond on the railroad.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 7, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER:

I want all the cavalry I can get to make a scout to-morrow. If I send any to General Gillmore I shall not have enough. Will send them to him Monday or Tuesday. Have ordered 20 to report to you.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 7, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

Have sent one company of cavalry to General Gillmore. Shall I send any more?

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

MAY 7, 1864.

General SMITH:

One is enough.

SHAFFER,
Colonel.

BERMUDA SIGNAL STATION, *May 7*, 1864.
(Received 4.40 p. m.)

General HINKS:

Is all quiet below?

BUTLER,
General.

CITY POINT SIGNAL STATION,
May 7, 1864—5 p. m.

General BUTLER:

Everything is quiet here; all quiet below last evening. Do you desire me to make any demonstration toward Petersburg?

HINKS,
General.

FORT MAGRUDER, *May* [7], 1864.

Capt. A. F. PUFFER, *Aide-de-Camp:*

I tried the Chickahominy yesterday at Jones' Bridge after a sharp skirmish, during which a party of dismounted colored cavalry crossed above the bridge and captured the enemy's camp. The position was seized; the bridge was found to be entirely destroyed and no timber near to rebuild it with. The ford has been arranged so as to have sides almost perpendicular, and is very deep—over a horse's head. The men, from want of experience, lost most of their forage. I did not hear any guns on James River; therefore thought the army could not have gone up. Finally concluded to return, get more provisions and forage, go back quickly and better prepared to repair the crossing. This I will do, unless otherwise directed, and effect a junction with the general. The colored cavalry behaved splendidly. I do not want any better troops.

R. M. WEST,
Colonel, &c.

FLAG-SHIP, CURL'S NECK, *May* 7, 1864.
(Via Fortress Monroe, 12 m. 8th. Received 1.20 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES, *Secretary of the Navy:*

Yesterday about 12 m. a large torpedo, which dragging had failed to discover, was exploded under the Commodore Jones, near Four-Mile Creek, and utterly destroyed the vessel, and about half her crew were killed and wounded. One of the torpedo men was killed, and the other two captured. Three coal vessels having afterward come up, dropped down last evening under the bluff to Curl's Neck, where we are now coaling the monitors. Contrabands from Richmond this a. m. report that Lee was dangerously wounded yesterday, and that our army fell back a short distance. This morning the tug gun-boat Shawsheen, while looking for a torpedo near Turkey Bend, of which a contraband had given information, was destroyed by a rebel battery and most of the officers and men captured. I hurried to her assistance (hearing the firing) with the Commodore Morris and shelled the enemy, who soon retreated.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

FORT GASTON, *May* 7, 1864—9 a. m.

Colonel AMORY:

All quiet this morning. Shall I send the two cavalry companies on a reconnaissance to Evans' Mill?

McCHESNEY,
Colonel.

NEW BERNE SIGNAL STATION,
May 7, 1864—9.35 a. m.

Colonel MCCHESNEY:

I think one company is enough to scout toward Evans' Mill. The other should be sent toward Pollocksville.

AMORY,
Colonel.

STATION NO. 1, *May 7*, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

Do you desire or require the four companies One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel McNary commanding, any longer at Rocky Run, or on your side of the front? If not, they will be recalled. If you do desire to keep them, state for how long.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding Outposts.

CAMP PALMER, *May 7*, 1864—12 m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

I do desire to keep them for the present. I cannot say for how long, but wish some slashing and digging to be done.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel Twelfth New York Cavalry.

STATION NO. 1, *May 7*, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Colonel SAVAGE:

MY DEAR COLONEL: I should be happy to accommodate you, but I am sure you will not ask it when I tell you that the One hundred and thirty-second is two days on and one day off duty, besides scouting, &c. Please, therefore, send two of the companies, each 2 officers, to the Red House before sunset to-day to relieve the One hundred and thirty-second now here. The other two companies you can keep for a few days, if you want them.

I am, &c.,

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding Outposts.

CAMP PALMER, *May 7*, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

MY DEAR COLONEL: I was not aware that your force was so small. The two companies will, of course, be removed as you desire at once to the Red House.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel Twelfth New York Cavalry.

CAMP PALMER, *May 7*, 1864—1.25 p. m.

Lieut. WILLIAM M. PRATT:

The enemy's pickets were within 50 yards of ours last night. They retired before my scouting party to within a quarter of a mile of the Pollocksville Forks, where they were in sufficient force to resist any attack that I could make. My artillery, of about 30 men, engaged them and skirmished for more than half an hour, when they retired before a charge.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel Twelfth New York Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Piney Branch Church, May 8, 1864—11.30 a. m.
(Received 3.15 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK:

The army commenced moving south at 9 p. m. yesterday, and when closed up to the position assigned for first day's march will stand thus: General Warren's corps at Spotsylvania Court-House; Hancock's at Todd's Tavern; Sedgwick's on road from Piney Branch Church to Spotsylvania, and General Burnside at Alrich's. It is not yet demonstrated what the enemy will do, but the best of feeling prevails in this army, and I feel at present no apprehension for the result. My efforts will be to form a junction with General Butler as early as possible, and be prepared to meet any enemy interposing. The results of the three days' fight at Old Wilderness was decidedly in our favor. The enemy having a strong intrenched position to fall back on when hard pressed, and the extensive train we had to cover, rendered it impossible to inflict the heavy blow on Lee's army I had hoped. My exact route to the James River I have not yet definitely marked out.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

I have ordered the establishment of a hospital at Fredericksburg for the wounded of this army, estimated at 12,000. I desire that medical officers, ambulances, and supplies may be sent there at once, as requested by the medical director in a dispatch to the Surgeon-General. Transportation by water to Belle Plain, or other suitable point, and thence by land must be provided, as I have no means to spare.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.
By S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Major-General Meade has left these headquarters for another point, hence this communication is signed by me in his name.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MEADE'S HEADQUARTERS.
Spotsylvania Court-House and Fredericksburg Road,
Near Ny River, May 8, 1864—6.40 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Two-thirds of Warren's corps is up and the head of Wright's. The country is covered with stragglers and the tails of the columns. General Meade thinks it will take halt the day to get them up. Warren is trying to see in what force the enemy is.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—11 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Warren reports that Crawford's attack developed the fact that the enemy were not very strongly intrenched, but he was not able to carry their line. On withdrawing the enemy made a charge, which was repulsed and about 100 prisoners taken, one of them, who represents himself as an ensign in an Alabama regiment, a Northern man, says Lee's army is not over 70,000; that they have lost a good many in the recent battles, and that the men are greatly exhausted by fatigue; that they left their intrenchments soon after dark last night and traveled all night; that when we first attacked this morning their line of battle was unformed and that there were no rifle-pits; that they have been since making them, and by to-morrow will have the usual rude breast-works; that Ewell and Longstreet are opposite Warren, and Hill is said to be on the left.

Hancock has taken prisoners in some skirmishing this afternoon from Hill's corps, and is under the impression Hill is taking position in front of him, which I think not unlikely. A scout has returned from Fredericksburg, who reports some of the enemy's cavalry having come in from the north side of the Rappahannock and capturing some of our wounded; that the Third New Jersey were in pursuit on the north side. I have given the orders for to-morrow and the preparatory orders agreed on for a move. Sheridan reports he will move to-morrow at 4 a. m. to carry out his instructions.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864.

The wounded of the army will be immediately transported to Fredericksburg, and there put in hospital. Major-General Hancock will detail a small regiment of infantry, under a reliable commander, who, with the Twenty-second New York Cavalry and his regiment, will escort them and take charge of the hospital; he will return the ambulances to the army, but retain the wagons, with which, under a flag of truce, he will endeavor to bring off the field such wounded as there was no transportation for. The wounded will be supplied with three days' subsistence, which will be furnished by corps commanders concerned.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864.

Corps and independent commanders will take immediate measures to issue to their respective commands to-day five days' marching rations. One day's salt meat must be left in the wagons. Commanders will at once ascertain through their chief quartermasters the location of their trains, and no wagons will be moved from the general trains other than those necessary to transport the supplies ordered to be issued. Until further orders only 5 pounds of forage per animal will be issued as the forage ration. Headquarters will be at Piney Branch Church to-day.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—2.15 p. m.

1. Capt. A. M. Wright, commanding Fifty-seventh New York Volunteers, is assigned to the charge of the guards designated to escort the train conveying the wounded to Fredericksburg, and to command of the detachment ordered to proceed to the battle-field and recover, if possible, under flag of truce, the wounded left there.

2. After placing in hospital at Fredericksburg the wounded now in his charge, Surg. E. B. Dalton, U. S. Volunteers, will proceed, with a suitable escort and train, to the late battle-field, for the purpose of recovering the wounded left there, and if necessary he will make application for permission to visit that field under flag of truce.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—3.45 p. m.

All ambulances and spring wagons of every description whatsoever now in use at any headquarters or by any officer of this army, for the transportation of baggage or any other purpose, will immediately be turned over to the medical director for the transportation of the wounded. The empty wagons of the supply trains will be substituted for the ambulances and spring wagons above mentioned. It is expected that this order will be promptly complied with by every officer concerned.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—4 p. m.

The trains allowed to be with the troops will be brought sufficiently near to accompany them on the march of to-morrow morn-

ing A canvas pontoon train will be sent to the Second Corps and one to the Sixth Corps this evening, and will be placed at the head of the trains of these corps on to-morrow's march.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—4.10 p. m.

The movements of troops for to-morrow, May 9, if any are made, will be as follows: First, the Second Corps, followed by the Fifth Corps, via Block house, Penny's Tavern, Mount Pleasant, Three Cornered Handkerchief, Waller's Church to Dabney's Mills. Second, the Sixth Corps, followed by the Artillery Reserve, and such ammunition trains as are not taken with the corps, via Spotsylvania Court-House, Mattapony Church, Green Branch, and New Market, to Davenport's Ford. Third, the leading columns will march at daylight, and be followed by the other columns as soon as the roads are cleared by the advance. Fourth, the main wagon trains, to be followed by the Ninth Corps, will move via Alsop's, Gate, Anderson's, Smith's Mill, Stanard's Mill, Mud Tavern, Round Oak Church, to Chilesburg. Fifth, each column will have a pontoon train. Sixth, no guards will accompany main wagon trains from corps but disabled and extra duty men. Seventh, the cavalry will be concentrated as already ordered to move against the enemy's cavalry, and thence to James River. Eighth, the five days' subsistence ordered this morning to be provided to-day, must be issued to the troops to-night at all hazards.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—11.05 p. m.

I. The army will remain quiet to-morrow, 9th instant, to give the men rest and to distribute ammunition and rations.

II. Corps commanders will strengthen their positions by intrenchments. The chief engineer and his assistants will aid in making the necessary examinations and in throwing up the works.

III. Corps commanders will return to their proper commands troops of other corps temporarily assigned to them.

IV. They will make field returns of the number present for duty.

V. Will send an estimate of casualties during the recent operations.

VI. Every effort will be made to bring up stragglers.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—6.30 a. m.

General MEADE:

The provost guard of the Fifth Corps is just crossing the plank road, and is halting now from some obstacle in front. I judge it may be an hour before it will pass my left, to enable me to even think of commencing a march.

Very respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—7.30 [a. m.]

Col. C. H. MORGAN,
Chief of Staff:

Everything quiet. The enemy still show themselves at the breastwork. The head of General Mott's division at the cross-roads moving on. General Mott has sent out his pioneers to bury our dead, of which there is a large number in the rear of our picket-line. They will fall in the rear of the column and destroy all arms still remaining in the road.

W. D. W. MILLER,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—8.15 [a. m.]

Col. C. H. MORGAN:

Colonel Schoonover, field officer Fourth Division, has just stated that he advanced the right of his line within sight of the Germanna plank road. Saw nothing except an occasional cavalry picket. The last brigade, Fourth Division, halted at the cross-roads. An occasional picket seen in our front—that is, on the plank road.

W. D. W. MILLER,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Burnside has been directed to take position as near to Alrich's as the trains in that vicinity will admit to cover them. General Sedgwick has been ordered to leave a division at Piney Branch Church, to put one at the point designated for his corps in yesterday's orders, and the remaining division half way between the two. Headquarters to-day will be at Piney Branch Church.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—As soon as you can dispense with them please send Fifth New York Cavalry to these headquarters, Second Ohio and Twenty-second New York to General Burnside.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Todd's Tavern, May 8, 1864—11 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

My column is slow in coming in, owing to the delay in relieving so long a picket-line. I think the cavalry here ought to be pushed forward, supported, if necessary, by an infantry brigade. I shall send out a brigade immediately, with cavalry, to see what is on the Catharpin road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—12 m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have just sent out a brigade of infantry to take or drive away a battery of the enemy's cavalry on my right and commanding my position, their shells nearly reaching here. Skirmishers have been sent to support Gregg in driving in enemy's cavalry, and, as silence reigns, I suppose they are successful. General Gibbon this moment reports that his skirmishers have advanced and have driven the enemy away. Nothing but cavalry was seen. The rear guard of my command has all arrived within the junction of the road leading to the Furnace. Some of the enemy's line of skirmishers advanced and fired a few shots at our cavalry, but that was all that transpired. General Gregg says he will at once relieve the cavalry regiment that I have at the Furnace corner, and I will send that regiment, as directed. About 20 men were left on the road sunstruck. My provost guard had no means of bringing them up with the column. If a regiment of cavalry could be sent out with some ambulances, they might be recovered. I would suggest that General Gregg, even if it should take his whole division, should advance on the Catharpin road to Corbin's Bridge, at least. I think it important, but, of course, you will know best. Coming down the Brock road I saw a column of dust parallel with ours. Whether it was the enemy's or not, I do not know.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—12 m. (Received 12.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Warren is engaged with the enemy 14 miles from Spotsylvania Court-House. The major-general commanding has ordered him to attack and drive the enemy. General Sedgwick's leading division is supporting Warren, and the commanding general directs that you hold yourself ready to support him, should it be necessary.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Todd's Tavern, May 8, 1864—4.10 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I have detailed the Fifty-seventh New York Volunteers to escort the wounded to Fredericksburg, and the regiment is probably near your headquarters now. The commanding officer is Captain Wright, a very reliable officer. The commanding officer of the Twenty-second New York Cavalry ranks him, but his regiment certainly did not act well this morning, and he appeared stupid. It would be well if Captain Wright could have charge of the whole force. The Fifty-seventh New York Regiment was selected on account of its heavy losses day before yesterday, lieutenant-colonel commanding being killed.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

The Twenty-second New York Cavalry will soon be on the road for Piney Branch Church.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General MEADE:

The following note just received from General Warren. I have directed Gibbon's division of infantry to report to him without delay. Gibbon is getting ready, and will proceed at once. I have no ammunition besides that in the cartridge-boxes.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

MAY 8, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

Send me down a good division. I am out of ammunition; send some if you have it. I find myself, after much success, in a position without a division I had expected, and fear I cannot do much more if I am attacked. Longstreet at least is in my front and Lee's cavalry on his flank. I have none. General Robinson is badly wounded; Colonel Ryan is killed, Robinson's division. Send me help if you are not pressed.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
Todd's Tavern, May 8, 1864—12.35 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your courier has arrived. My command is nearly all in. I am ordered to hold myself in readiness to support you, should it be necessary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I know that Gibbon could be recalled if the commanding general did not wish him to go to Warren, but I believe I did right in sending him the division. Still I should like to have his views as to what I shall send on subsequent application, or whether I shall await orders from headquarters of the army.

WINFD S. HANCOCK.

MAY 8, 1864—1.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

I am instructed to inform you that General Sedgwick is directed to reenforce Warren with his whole corps, and both to make a vigorous attack upon the enemy in the vicinity of Spotsylvania Court-House immediately. Longstreet's corps is there.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SIGNAL STATION, NEAR TODD'S TAVERN,
May 8, 1864—3 p. m.

Capt. P. A. TAYLOR:

Observe a heavy dust rising on road due west from this point and about 7 miles distant; think it is infantry moving on road leading from Parker's Store to Craig's Meeting-House. Battery observed in our front 14 miles distant in southwesterly direction is now disappearing toward our left in woods in direction of Catharpin road.

J. E. HOLLAND,
Lieutenant, Signal Corps.

Also two or three columns of black smoke are seen, apparently along about White Hall Mill; fires, no doubt.

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 8, 1864—3.40 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Have just returned from an examination of the Catharpin road. Found a brigade well posted on the heights this side of Corbin's Bridge, overlooking the Po River, a commanding position and overlooking the enemy's line. He was seen moving south; had several guns in position; occasionally uses them. Our cavalry is being withdrawn from that flank. The main line crosses the Catharpin about half a mile west of Todd's Tavern. All quiet at present in that direction.

N. MICHLER,
Captain, Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 8, 1864—5.50 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS.
Chief of Staff:

The enemy are advancing a line of skirmishers nearly parallel to the Catharpin road. Two brigades have been ordered forward to assist the one already holding the advanced position. The attack has just commenced. General Hancock desires General Gibbon to be held in readiness to aid him if necessary. The attack is not very strong as yet.

N. MICHLER,
Captain, Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 8, 1864—5.30 p. m. (Received 6.30 p. m.)

GENERAL: The commander of the brigade advanced on the Catharpin road reports at 4.15 p. m.:

I sent 100 [men] across the Po River on a reconnaissance. They have just returned without loss, meeting only cavalry and artillery. A long column of infantry, artillery, and baggage train has been observed [moving] due south. A contraband boy, who has just come in my lines, says that it is Longstreet's corps, and that they were moving to Spotsylvania Court-House. He states further that Lomax's and Wheaton's [Wickham's] brigades of cavalry are opposite my position. These brigades, he states, were at Spotsylvania.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Todd's Tavern, May 8, 1864—6 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The skirmishers of my advanced brigade have been attacked on the right flank by a line of skirmishers. Apparently, so far, the attack is not strong, and a cloud of smoke is going to the right on the Catharpin road as if some cavalry were going to our right from this attack. I will further advise you as the matter progresses.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—6.30 p. m.

[General A. A. HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: I have just received the report that a column of infantry is coming down the Brock road and filing to the left, through the open country, one-half mile in front of our lines. An infantry scout I sent out about an hour ago has just returned, and says he saw a line of cavalry skirmishers coming down the Brock road, followed by a line of dismounted men, which may be infantry or cavalry. I am making the best preparation possible to meet the case.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 8, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: One of the prisoners taken states that the enemy in front was proceeding to Spotsylvania Court-House, and accidentally their flanks were against our line. This may account for their appearing in that direction. Mahone's brigade, of Anderson's division, was engaged. A scout whom I sent out from my right, a very intelligent man, and who witnessed the fight in the open clearing, says that afterward he saw some infantry coming over the Brock road yelling. I don't know the condition of the Artillery Reserve, and I don't know whether to send back the heavy artillery if there is no assault to-night.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

A deserter from this brigade says that there were more troops behind.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—8 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The heavy artillery brigade has arrived, but I have directed it to return, as I have two brigades in reserve and some little reserve elsewhere.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Todd's Tavern, May 8, 1864—11 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In reference to the Twenty-second New York Cavalry, I would say that it has reported to me and is in rear of my column. The Second Ohio and other regiments of that brigade were ordered by General Burnside to follow him, so the colonel commanding reports to me. Three of my divisions are in and the fourth coming up.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. 2D CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General Warren is at Spotsylvania Court-House with his own corps and one division of Sedgwick's. It is presumed General Warren will be able to do what is assigned him, but the command must be held in that species of readiness which will enable the corps to move at short notice. Let the men get water by detail.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. 2D CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—4.40 [p.] m.

Commanders are directed to obstruct the approaches to their positions as much as possible by felling trees, &c. This does not apply to the Spotsylvania road, which will be left open.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION,
May 8, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Colonel [MORGAN?]:

In reply to your dispatch of 3 p. m., I would state that the position I now hold is, one regiment on the right and one on the left of the road, on the same line that the brigade was on when you were here, the picket-line on the outer edge of the woods. I have already retired three regiments about one-half mile, near where the road comes in from the large open field on the right, with pickets well thrown out on my right. I sent 100 men over the Po River to reconnoiter. They have returned without loss, meeting only cavalry and artillery. A long column of infantry, artillery, and baggage train has been observed moving due south. A contraband boy, who has just come into my lines, states that it is Longstreet's corps, and that they were moving to Spotsylvania Court-House. He states further that Lomax's and Wheaton's [Wickham's] brigades of cavalry are opposite my position. These brigades, he states, were at Spotsylvania Court-House. Please direct me if I shall move farther to the rear or remain in the position I now occupy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Colonel Sixty-first New York Vols., Comdg. Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS, *May* 8, 1864.

General MOTT:

Colonel Beaver, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, is corps officer of the day. Colonel Egan, Fortieth New York, is assisting him in that duty. After you pass, they will commence collecting the regiments on picket and form a rear guard. Until that time, however, if anything transpires in your rear, form a rear guard on yourself. Three regiments of cavalry will follow the picket rear guard. If this cavalry officer is followed by any one having artillery, it would be well to let him have a gun, if he desires to use it. The greatest vigilance is required under the circumstances until our command gets fairly off. In view of a possible attack by a small force—it cannot be a large one, not larger than our own at the utmost—I have left an aide, Captain Miller, with the rear guard, to look after the matter. You will have to be very cautious in keeping your men closed up, in case the cavalry come down upon you. As you command the division in rear, the major-general commanding charges you with the supervision of the matter, if any difficulty arises with the rear guard or pickets.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS.
May 8, 1864—2.30 p. m. (Received 3.15 p. m.)

General MOTT,
Commanding Fourth Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you put a good regiment, with a reliable commander, at the junction of the Furnace road (the direct road from Craig's Meeting-House to the Furnace) with the Brock road, and to picket well to the front and left, as soon as the cavalry leave, which they will soon do. Please look after this part of the ground.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864. (Received 3.15.)

[General MOTT?:]

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you make frequent reconnaissances on the Brock road, and on the road turning to the left toward Craig's Meeting-House. A force of one or two companies will probably be enough to ascertain whether these roads are being used by the enemy. Extend the reconnaissances as far as safety will permit beyond your picket-post. In case of advance of the enemy in this direction, you will probably be required to hold the right of the line. The general wishes you to examine the ground with a view to forming a good connection between General Barlow's right and the Brock road.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 8, 1864—8.20 p. m. (Received 9 p. m.)

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding wishes you to picket up the road leading to Fredericksburg from the point where it strikes your rifle-pits, so as to prevent any one passing around you to obtain information.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
T. B. PARKER,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

TODD'S TAVERN, VA., *May* 8, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to instructions received last evening from corps headquarters, I proceeded this morning to withdraw the pickets of the corps after the column had passed the plank road upon which corps headquarters were situated.

After the column had passed, instead of a brigade of cavalry, which it was expected would constitute the rear guard, it was discovered that a large part of the brigade had followed General Burnside's column, leaving but a regiment to follow us. The regiment (the Twenty-second New York) has evidently been but a short time in the service. The officer in command, Major [McLennan], received detailed instructions in regard to his movements and the disposition of his forces. The rear of the column of infantry had proceeded but a short distance when it was attacked by a few skirmishers, who appeared in the woods on the right of the Brock road. Skirmishers had scarcely been thrown out and the attack repulsed before a portion of the cavalry mentioned above came down in disgraceful confusion, without any apparent cause, no firing having been heard and no considerable force seen at any other point. It is believed that most of the horses of the men who had been dismounted were captured or abandoned without any sufficient cause. The officer in charge of the regiment displayed a want of energy and skill in all his movements, which augur ill for the good of the service. The service is indebted to Colonel Egan, of the Fortieth New York Regiment, and Lieutenant-Colonel Stricker, of the Second Delaware Regiment, for the zeal and energy they displayed in assembling the pickets of their division and in repulsing the attack of the enemy upon our rear.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. BEAVER,
Colonel 148th Pennsylvania Volunteers.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS,
May 8, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT:

GENERAL: General Hancock has directed me to call on you for a detail of 500 men for an intrenching party, to bring what tools you have—any deficiency will be supplied; to report to me immediately in front of General Hancock's headquarters, near the batteries.

Very respectfully,

JNO. C. TIDBALL,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

MAY 8, 1864—5 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The head of my column reached General Merritt's headquarters at 3.30 a. m. I have word that the rear of it got off about 12.30, the delay being caused by the halt at the head of the column from obstruction. I found General Merritt at 3 a. m. just starting out with an order from General Meade to push on and clear away the road. I have had my troops closing in masses as fast as possible ever since, and they drop to sleep as soon as halted. General Merritt has for some time been skirmishing, and his column near me is advancing. I do not know the result in front. He will

have to clear the way or make way a little himself for me to get to the front. Perhaps he will succeed without my help; and, if not, a little rest to my men will help them very much. I am aware of the importance of getting on to Spotsylvania Court-House as soon as may be, and should have taken the front and attacked if the cavalry had not been moving up to do it. I have one division now massed. The fighting is about a mile in front of me.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 8, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I started my troops forward at 6 o'clock; nearly two divisions have passed where General Merritt's headquarters is. General Robinson's division had the advance and he has been directed to spare no effort to clear the road. Having now heard from all my staff officers, left to the rear at different points to enforce instructions, I am now going to the immediate front to direct the advance. If anything happens to me, General Crawford is the next officer in rank. My wagons began to haul out at Chancellorsville at daylight. My pickets were not relieved till near 3 a. m. They report the enemy chopping along their front during the night. The head of General Burnside's corps had reached Chancellorsville before daylight I know, and also that the last of General Willcox's division left the Wilderness Run before daylight. The cavalry in my front here have, I think, made no advance to-day. I sent my men forward at General Merritt's intimation that, under the circumstances, I could push the enemy faster than he could. It is difficult to do much with the troops in an expeditious manner in these dense woods.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 8, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The opposition to us amounts to nothing as yet; we are advancing steadily, the enemy uses artillery, two pieces, on the road. General Robinson has gone ahead with a brigade, mostly in line. I follow close with columns filling the road, and artillery; if there is nothing but cavalry, we shall scarcely halt, if our troops can be made to move, but they are exceedingly hesitating, I think. General Robinson's orders are to use only the bayonet, and carry every battery the enemy shows. It is believed to be Fitzhugh Lee's cavalry.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I reached the vicinity of the blacksmith shop at the intersection of the road from Piney Branch Church, the road we were on, toward Spotsylvania Court-House. I promptly attacked the enemy here

with what was on hand of General Robinson's division, led by himself in person, and General Griffin's division by himself. General Robinson's troops fought with reluctance, and fell back, himself severely wounded in the knee. This exposed General Griffin's left, and part of his command fell back too, all in much confusion, refusing much of our attempts to stop them, till they got out of fire. They will soon stop, and can perhaps be assembled again to-day. General Griffin, however, held on. I sent General Crawford to his support and then General Cutler, and they have held on, and at this time are again advancing in fine style. We have taken prisoners from General Longstreet's corps.

WARREN.

[Indorsement.]

An aide who brought this says that the prisoners belonged to General McLaws' division, Longstreet's corps. I am in hopes this may be some mounted infantry given to Stuart to strengthen him. I hardly think Longstreet is yet at Spotsylvania. Sedgwick's best division joined Warren just as this dispatch was written. I have told him to call for the one here if necessary, and to attack vigorously without loss of time, but I fear the morale of his men is impaired.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—12 m.

General WARREN:

Your dispatch is received. General Sedgwick has one division now with you, and another at this place ready to move forward to support you. Attack vigorously. Let the men know it is our interest to prevent a concentration to stop our march, and that they should drive them.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

We have finally succeeded in pushing back the enemy as far as we have tried, but have not quite gained the junction of the Catharpin road with the one I have been moving on. General Wright has brought up his division to support me. I have again suffered heavily, especially in stragglers. The Second Division (Robinson's) is quite disorganized. I have lost no prisoners; the men simply straggle back into the woods fatigued and wounded. I have done my best, but with the force I now have I cannot attack again unless I see very great weakness on the enemy's left flank. It would be well to send troops of Sedgwick's near the woods to me, and to move on with Hancock's down half way. I have fought the division of cavalry and taken prisoners from at least two divisions of Longstreet's corps. They say his whole corps is here. His men left the trenches last night at 11 o'clock, and are as tired as mine. His wagons are seen moving south on the Catharpin road. Colonel Locke is badly

wounded in the face. I have lost the old white horse. Colonel Ryan is killed; my staff is all tired out. Can you not send me from the trains some ammunition, say five wagon loads, and what ambulances can be spared; I have none in the train. My position is good enough if I am not attacked in some unprepared point on my flanks. I incline to think, though, that if I let the enemy alone he will me. I cannot gain Spotsylvania Court-House with what force I have. You can best judge whether I can be spared more assistance from General Sedgwick by being informed of our necessities elsewhere. I would like to have it from both Sedgwick and Hancock. I am out of ammunition.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

While I am writing the reports of my officers come in such that I need re-enforcement. I dare not fall back, for then I shall disclose my feeling of weakness.

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Sedgwick's whole corps is sent to join you in the attack on the wing. Wilson sends word he has taken prisoners from both of Longstreet's divisions. It is of the utmost importance the attack of yourself and Sedgwick should be made with vigor and without delay.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—2 p. m.

General WARREN:

Ammunition will be sent you at once. Ingalls is attending to it.

A. A. H.

MAY 8, 1864—2 p. m.

General MEADE:

I see no changes in the enemy's force. No firing to speak of, except with artillery, and of that but little. I am picking up a little ammunition, and dividing out that of those that have not fired much away with the others. Prisoners say Longstreet is wounded. I will do my best to smash Longstreet up when General Sedgwick comes.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

I feel the less apprehension of an attack than I did after considering the matter from my own point of view. The rebels are as tired out as we are.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to advise you that these headquarters will be found to-day upon the road leading from Piney Branch Church to Spotsylvania Court-House.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Sedgwick.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—3.05 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: I have halted General Gibbon's division at the junction of the Todd's Tavern and Spotsylvania road with the Piney Branch Church road. I do not wish you to use him except in case of the most urgent necessity, because I anticipate Hill or Ewell making his appearance at Todd's Tavern, which point it is necessary to hold, and the whole force is with you except Second Corps. I have directed the Artillery Brigade to be held in readiness at Piney Grove Church.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The result of General Crawford's demonstration was to show the enemy not intrenched there. He captured a number of prisoners, in all, to-day, some 50, perhaps. The enemy seem nervous and opened a stampeding fire after dark on our left. The enemy is cutting trees, and artillery is heard moving guns to his right.

Respectfully, yours,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 8, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

DEAR GENERAL: I have sent my statement of all that I know of importance instead of coming myself. I am rather amused at your conclusion from my remark about having any opinion to give, as indicating a loss of something, but in truth I only meant that there is but one thing left—to fight it out. I think it is very hard to do, but the object of war, a settlement, can never be come to without doing so. I am so sleepy I can hardly write intelligently.

G. K. WARREN.

MAY 8, 1864—1.35 p. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: It is reported to me that the enemy are moving a column to our left. My left is well protected and General Wright has come up. There is no doubt that one or more of Longstreet's divisions is in our front.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Division.

LINE OF BATTLE, NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA,
May 8, 1864—9.30 [p. m.].

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: I send a prisoner named Edwards, a New Yorker, belonging to an Alabama regiment, who is desirous o communicating all the information he has. The enemy has a small line of intrenchments, which will be strengthened to-night. From what he says our attack this afternoon if followed up would have been entirely successful. They will bring up artillery to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Division.

I have 70 prisoners more to send to corps headquarters.

MAY 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD:

I don't think them in much force in your front. I can send you some help if needed. General Longstreet's whole corps is here, but it must be very small now, not 7,000 strong. Badly whipped today and very tired. When Sedgwick comes we'll smash him up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. 118TH REGIMENT PENNSYLVANIA VOLS.,
*January 18, 1865.**

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 8th of May, 1864, in obedience to your orders, I reported to General Crawford with command, consisting of detachments from Twenty-second and Ninth Massachusetts Regiments, under command of Captain Field; Twentieth Maine Regiment, Major Spear; Sixteenth Michigan Regiment, Major Elliott, and One hundred and eighteenth Pennsylvania Regiment, Major O'Neill. About 4 p. m. I received orders from an officer representing General Crawford, to form my command in line in echelon, preparatory to an advancement upon the enemy, to act as support to a brigade of the Pennsylvania Reserves. The line was formed in accordance with orders,

*See also Herring's report, Part I, p. 591.

as well as the conformation of the ground would permit, the positions of the regiments being as follows: Detachments from the Twenty-second and Ninth Massachusetts Regiments on the right; Twentieth Maine Regiment, One hundred and eighteenth Pennsylvania Regiment, and Sixteenth Michigan Regiment on extreme left. Meeting General Crawford, he informed me that General Neill would protect the left flank with his forces; shortly afterward he gave me orders to advance. As we approached the crest of the hill the advanced lines were engaged, and upon reaching the summit the engagement became general and severe, the enemy apparently withholding their fire until our advance was close upon them. Following up the effect of their fire, the enemy charged upon the first line, causing it to fall back in confusion. This affected the integrity of my line, but by the superior exertions of the officers it was restored and maintained. The location being a dense thicket of cedars and pines, and the hour being twilight, the enemy approached closely to my lines before being discovered, it being then difficult to distinguish the color of the uniforms. When they discovered themselves we became closly and hotly engaged, several instances occurring of hand-to-hand fighting. The line was maintained and the enemy repulsed. According to the reports of the regimental commanders and the commanders of the detachments, the aggregate number of prisoners taken was about 300. The colors of the Sixth Alabama Regiment were also captured. Our losses were as follows: Killed, 1 officer and 13 men; wounded, 62 men; missing, 3 officers and 23 men. After the enemy had retired to his works, I placed my line under cover of the crest of the hill, taking a portion of the line in my rear, under command of Major Ellis, of the Sixth Corps, to strengthen my left, and changing the front of the regiment on the right to protect that flank, and establishing a picket, I sent in officers to report to General Crawford my position, and for instructions. They returned about midnight, having been unable to find his headquarters. They, however, had met with General Neill, to whom their mission was stated, and [he] gave them orders for me to retire my command at 3 a. m. In returing the line at that hour, I found a picket-line established in my rear. Halting the command, I went forward with Major Ellis and cautioned an officer, apparently in charge, so as to enable me to pass the line without danger of the command being fired upon. Bivouacked the command in the woods and reported to General Crawford at daylight. Received orders that the respective commands could return to their brigades.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. P. HERRING,
Brevet Colonel, Comdg. 118th Regiment Pennsylvania Vols.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—12.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

Brigadier-General [Wright's] reports that Major-General Warren called on him for assistance. He went with three brigades, leaving one at the point indicated.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK:

You will proceed with your whole corps to Spotsylvania Court-House and join General Warren in a prompt and vigorous attack on the enemy now concentrating there. Use every exertion to move with the utmost dispatch.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I sent Lieutenant-Colonel McMahon to say that General Warren, having examined the ground, had formed a plan of attack and is about to carry it out. A division and brigade of the Sixth [Corps] will commence on the left, to be followed up if any impression is made. There is a very thick tangle to get through before reaching them.

JOHN SEDGWICK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY,
Todd's Tavern, May 8, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that you occupy a position as near Alrich's as you can get to cover our trains from a possible attack down the plank road. Sedgwick will have a division at Piney Branch Church, where these headquarters will be. You should connect with this division.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

You should to-day and to-night issue five days' rations from to-morrow. You will probably remain in position till some time to-morrow morning.

C. B. C.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY,
Piney Branch Church, May 8, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Comdg. Ninth Army Corps:*

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that like General Meade you send your wounded to Fredericksburg, where your medical officers will act in conjunction with the medical director of the Army of the Potomac in establishing temporary hospitals and moving these wounded thence to Washington via Aquia Creek. If you are not able to move all your wounded at once, you will, keeping your own [illegible] with you, send your empty quartermaster wagons under [illegible] battle-field with supplies and get the rest of the [illegible] to Fredericksburg.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Piney Branch Church, May 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: We have no troops at Alsop's, Gate, or Anderson's. These three points are on the road which will be designated in future orders for next march. Please get the five days' rations you were directed to issue this morning into the hands of your men at the earliest possible moment.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 8, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

The following is a memorandum of the order of the next march. The time of starting will be given you hereafter: Hancock, followed by Warren, via Block house, Penny's Tavern, Mount Pleasant, Three Cornered Handkerchief, Waller's Church to Dabney's Mills; Sedgwick, followed by Artillery Reserve, and such ammunition trains as are not taken with corps, via Spotsylvania Court-House, Mattapony Church, Green Branch, and New Market, to Davenport's Ford; the main wagon trains to be followed by Burnside, via Alsop's, Gate, Anderson's, Smith's Mill, Stanard's Mill, Mud Tavern, Round Oak Church, and Chilesburg. Each column to have a pontoon train; no guards for the main wagon trains from corps but disabled and extra-duty men. The cavalry has all been cut loose from the main command and directed to make its way to the James River and communicate with General Butler. Your line of march will, therefore, be as hereinbefore indicated, with two divisions of your white troops in advance of your main wagon trains, and the remaining two divisions in rear of the trains. The white troops will form the rear guard. The greatest vigilance should be exercised in the protection of these trains and the keeping of them well up.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 8, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

It has been definitely ascertained that Longstreet's corps, at least two divisions of it, are at Spotsylvania. Warren's whole corps has engaged it. Sedgwick has been ordered up, with a view of crushing it, if possible. This leaves no troops at this place.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
In the Field, near Piney Branch Church, May 8, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

You will move forward to Chilesburg the moment you can get the trains started. If you can find another road in supporting distance of the one you have been directed to move on, and by which other troops have not been ordered to march, so as to double your train, you will do so.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Alrich's, May [8], 1864—4.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS, *Chief of Staff:*

General Burnside wishes to know whether a pontoon train has been ordered to report to him with engineers. He says he will follow the trains as quick as they can move. I shall start for headquarters in a little while, unless something turns up to keep me here.

Yours, &c.,

O. E. BABCOCK.

[Indorsement.]

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I have sent pontoon trains in the train you convoy, but you will not need one.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 8, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Dispose of your command so as to most easily and effectually guard the trains in your convoy, and at the same time be in readiness, on receipt of orders, to send two divisions of infantry to help drive the enemy from Spotsylvania Court-House, where he appears to have made a stand in very considerable force.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 8, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Our men have not taken Spotsylvania Court-House. The enemy seems quite strongly fortified there. The fight was quite severe this morning. The cavalry lost heavily. The reports are that Lee is sending his trains to Richmond.

Yours, very truly,

O. E. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Camp near Spotsylvania Court-House, May 8, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The enemy have made a strong resistance here; so much so that no advance will be attempted to-morrow. You will not, therefore, move your advance beyond (south of) the Gate. If you have not already got two divisions at the front, get them up by 6 a. m. to-morrow, so that if they should be called for they can be marched from the Gate directly on Spotsylvania.

Respectfully, yours,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CAMP THIRD NEW JERSEY CAVALRY,
May 8, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Col. A. J. MORRISON,
Commanding Third New Jersey Cavalry:

COLONEL: An orderly just in from Major Robeson reports that 2 officers from Fredericksburg met him on the road, and reported that the citizens of Fredericksburg were picking up our wounded (making prisoners of them). He has accordingly left a squad at Salem Church, under an officer, and has pushed on to Fredericksburg with the balance of his command, to render such assistance as may be in his power.

Respectfully,

C. C. SUYDAM,
Lieutenant-Colonel Third New Jersey Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD NEW JERSEY CAVALRY,
Camp in Field, near Town Church, May 8, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Lieut. Col. LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

I have just received the following dispatch from Major Robeson, whom I sent out immediately on my arrival here with two companies. As will be seen, he was afterward joined by Captain Krahmer with another company. The following is the dispatch:

COLONEL: Captain Krahmer joined me, and I made a dash through the city [meaning Fredericksburg]. The niggers say that on our approach some 50 rebel cavalry left in a hurry, and that they had taken 150 of our wounded this morning. have arrested 2 citizens, whom some of the soldiers accuse of aiding the rebels to-day. The town is full of our soldiers.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. P. ROBESON,
Major, &c.

I have directed the major to remain there only so long as he may consider it necessary, and to turn over his prisoners to the provost-marshal.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. MORRISON,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
In Camp near Alrich's, May 8, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General STEVENSON,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: You will march your command to-morrow morning at 3.30 o'clock for a point on the road called Gate, following General Willcox, who is ordered to march at 3 a. m. In the absence of the general commanding you will report to General Willcox. The general commanding desires to see you before starting to give you fuller instructions. Colonel Marshall will relieve General Willcox in his present position.

Very respectfully,

WM. CUTTING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Alrich's, May 8, 1864.

General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you issue to-day and to-night five days' rations from to-morrow. You will probably remain in position till some time to-morrow morning. The issue should be made at the earliest possible moment.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brigadier-General Stevenson, commanding First Division; General Ferrero, commanding Fourth Division; Colonel Marshall, commanding Provisional Brigade.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness to move at very short notice, and that unusual care be given to your picket-line. The fight at Spotsylvania Court-House was very severe, with great loss to our side, particularly in the cavalry force, and your command may be ordered down at a moment's notice. He also desires that the men of your command have all the rest they can have consistent with a strict watch along your whole line.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brigadier-General Ferrero, commanding Fourth Division.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Chancellorsville, Va., May 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. O. B. WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you hold your command in readiness to move at one hour's notice. The command will take with it its proper allowance of baggage.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully,
LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
In Camp, Alrich's, May 8, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you march your command to-morrow morning in time to be certain to reach Gate at 6 a. m. with your whole division. The road is so obstructed by wagons that the general commanding wishes you to start at 3 a. m.

Very respectfully,
WM. CUTTING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

Brigadier-General Stevenson will follow you with the First Division, starting at 3.30 a. m.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Alrich's, May 8, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO:

GENERAL: Major-General Sheridan directs that unless you have received other orders, you move in rear of the wagons on the Alrich road, and protect them with your command. The wagons will move to the vicinity of Spotsylvania Court-House to-night.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,
JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
In Camp at Alrich's, May 8, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Col. E. G. MARSHALL,
Commanding, &c.:

COLONEL: Brigadier-General Willcox will leave his present position at 3 a. m. to-morrow. The general commanding directs that you take the position of General Willcox immediately upon his departure, holding your command in readiness to move forward at short notice.

Very respectfully,
WM. CUTTING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Todd's Tavern, May 8, 1864—1 a. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

I find Generals Gregg and Torbert without orders. They are in the way of the infantry and there is no time to refer to you. I have given them the inclosed orders,* which you can modify to-day after the infantry corps are in position.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
May 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that I have over 600 wounded. I have loaded them in my ambulances and all my empty wagons. My medical director is now trying to unload some of the wagons of the division trains, so as to move them all.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have an officer of my staff just from General Wilson. He (General Wilson) saw the enemy's trains moving toward Richmond. Met portions of Longstreet's corps at Spotsylvania Court-House and has fallen back to Alsop's. An orderly with inclosed dispatch† (in cipher) was captured.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Camp at Silver's House, May 8, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor herewith to inclose two reports‡ just received from Brig. Gen. J. H. Wilson, commanding Third Cavalry Division.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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*See Meade to Torbert and Meade to Gregg, 1 a. m., May 8, p. 552.
†Not found.
‡See Wilson to Sheridan and Forsyth, May 8, 3 p. m., p. 554.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Major-General Sheridan's headquarters will be at Silver's to-night, on the plank road to Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania. If the general should again make a change he will send you word. The general desires to know where army headquarters will be to-night.

E. B. PARSONS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—10 p. m.

General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

The major-general commanding directs you to immediately concentrate your available mounted force, and with your ammunition trains and such supply trains as are filled (exclusive of ambulances) proceed against the enemy's cavalry, and when your supplies are exhausted proceed via New Market and Green Bay to Haxall's Landing, on the James River, there communicating with General Butler, procuring supplies, and return to this army. Your dismounted men will be left with the train here.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Todd's Tavern, May 8, 1864—1 a. m.

General TORBERT or MERRITT,
First Cavalry Division:

You will immediately move your command beyond Spotsylvania Court-House, placing one brigade for the present at the Block house, picketing the roads approaching the Court-House, and disposing the other two so as to cover the trains that will be north of the Ny River, between that and the Orange plank road. It is of the utmost importance that not the slightest delay occur in your opening the Brock road beyond Spotsylvania Court-House, as an infantry corps is now on its way to occupy that place.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—1 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

You will immediately move your division to the vicinity of Corbin's Bridge and watch all the roads approaching from Parker's Store, and as soon as General Hancock has occupied Todd's Tavern you will send a force on the Brock road to notify General H. of the approach of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864—1 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to instruct you to move with your command at 5 a. m. on the Catharpin road, crossing at Corbin's Bridge and taking up position at Shady Grove Church. General Merritt, with the First Division, will follow you on the same road, and on arriving at Shady Grove Church will take the left hand or Block house road, moving forward and taking up position at that point (via Block house). Immediately after he has passed you will move forward with your division on the same road to the crossing of Po River, where you will take up position, supporting General Merritt. General Wilson, with his division, will march from Alsop's by way of Spotsylvania Court-House and the Gate to Snell's Bridge, where he will take up position. Your ammunition train and authorized headquarters wagons will accompany you. The balance of your division train will proceed to Spotsylvania Court-House in charge of Lieutenant-Colonel Howard, chief quartermaster, Cavalry Corps, when they will be reported to you. The infantry march to Spotsylvania Court-House to-night.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you move your command from its present position by way of Piney Branch Church and Alrich's to a place on the plank road known on the map as Silver's. Halt your command at that point and wait further orders.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. 2D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 8, 1864.

Col. J. IRVIN GREGG,
Second Brigade, Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

You will at once make the following provisions for your brigade, all to be completed before 4.30 a. m. to-morrow: Each man will be required to carry on his person 50 rounds of carbine cartridges and 18 rounds of pistol; three days' rations of coffee, sugar, and hard bread, one day's salt meat, and five days' rations of salt. This will be required to last five days. The balance of the small-arm ammunition will be carried in wagons and will accompany the batteries. One ambulance or spring wagon will be allowed to corps, division, and brigade headquarters. All other wagons or vehicles with the Cavalry Corps will be left behind, and will move with the main trains of the army, under the direction of Capt. J. B. Tallman, assistant quartermaster, and will be guarded by the dismounted men of this command.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Spotsylvania Court-House, May 8, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

Have run the enemy's cavalry a mile from Spotsylvania Court-House. Have charged them through the village. Am fighting now with a considerable force, supposed to be Lee's division. Everything all right.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
May 8, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report from information derived from an orderly of General Kershaw, commanding a division in Longstreet's corps, taken prisoner near Spotsylvania Court-House to-day, that General Longstreet was wounded on Friday last in the neck, and that he will be unfit for duty for two months. He also reports that General Wadsworth was mortally wounded on the same day, and that he cannot live. Both generals were wounded on the plank road, about 2 or 3 miles south of Parker's Store.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Alsop's, May 8, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN:

A captured rebel courier informs me that General Wadsworth is not yet dead, though insensible from a wound in the head, and expected to die eventually. I will send more details when I ascertain them.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Alsop's, May 8, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff:

My troops are now here and between here and the road from Fredericksburg to Spotsylvania. All quiet, no advance anywhere on the N.v. I have 41 prisoners: 2 officers, 1 the assistant inspector-general of Kershaw's brigade, Longstreet's corps. It's a great pity the troops on the Todd's Tavern road could not have advanced farther. We should have had several hundred prisoners. Send me word what to do and where our infantry is. We cleaned out Wickham's brigade in about two minutes, scattered him in all direc-

tions, killed quite a number, and wounded some 20 or 30. Our artillery had an admirable chance. Second New York and Eighteenth Pennsylvania charged very handsomely. Prisoners from cavalry brigade and two divisions of Longstreet's corps.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *May* 8, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatch of the 7th has just reached me. We have as yet no official report from General Grant. Nothing is known of his condition except from newspaper reports, which represent two days' hard fighting on Thursday and Friday. From 6,000 to 8,000 wounded are sent back, and Ingalls telegraphs yesterday at noon to General Meigs that "it is said the enemy are retiring." In respect to the reserves mentioned in your telegram, there are none at the disposal of the Department. General Grant has with him all the troops, and you will have to depend only upon such as may have been provided in your programme with him. Your dispatch will be forwarded to him to apprise him of your condition and for his instructions. Your success thus far is extremely gratifying to the President and this Department, and we hope your skill and good luck may accomplish all your wishes.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 8, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: I respectfully request that all the cavalry that can be spared be sent to this corps for duty at the front until the arrival of the troops of that arm belonging to the Tenth Corps.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Bermuda Landing, Va., May 8, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE:

You will take all your command but three brigades, which were detailed before, and demonstrate to the right and front, via Ware Bottom Church, upon the railroad, accomplishing its destruction at any place where you may strike it, and along as much of it as possible. The enemy are in our front with scarcely 5,000 men, and it is a disgrace that we are cooped up here. This movement will commence at daylight to-morrow morning and is imperative. Answer if you have received this order and will be ready to move.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

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*See quotation in Gillmore's report, p. 34.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Bermuda Landing, Va., May 8, 1864.

General GILLMORE:

I need not say that your works must be pushed with the utmost vigor during the day, but give your troops a good night's rest. Let your remaining brigade push the works while you are gone.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: Your two dispatches of this date are received. I shall move, as ordered, at daybreak to-morrow. All necessary preliminary orders have been issued. My instructions are to take my whole command except three brigades. I understand this to mean the infantry force and such artillery as I can use. I respectfully recommend that a demonstration be made at the same time on the left, in order to divide the enemy's force. I would also urge that a cavalry force be sent to report to me to-night. I shall need them much.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—I forward this by my chief of staff, Brigadier-General Foster, who will confer with you in regard to the matter. He is entirely in my confidence.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 3. } *In the Field, May 8, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. The troops of this command will move, according to verbal instructions furnished to division commanders, in the following order: Brigadier-General Ames, with one brigade and one battery, will march at 4.30 a. m. Brigadier-General Turner will follow immediately after General Ames, with one brigade and one battery. Brigadier-General Terry will follow immediately after General Turner, with two brigades and two batteries. The troops will be supplied with 60 rounds of ammunition and three days' cooked rations. If this number of rations is not on hand, they will take what they have, and the remainder will be packed in wagons, ready to move if ordered. The men will move in light marching order, with rubber blankets or shelter-tents, and with full ranks, according to the morning reports. Engineer detachments and pioneers will be equipped with axes, shovels, and picks (a greater proportion of axes). All straggling is strictly prohibited, and will be summarily punished.

3. During the absence of that portion of this command, now under marching orders, Col. H. M. Plaisted, Eleventh Maine Volunteers, will command the line of intrenchments, with the troops remaining behind.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 8, 1864—11 a. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

Have your command, except the brigade sent out yesterday, in readiness to move at daybreak to-morrow in light marching order. Your works must be pushed with the utmost vigor during the day, and in your absence by the brigade left behind.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division, Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: By direction of the major-general commanding the corps your attention is called to the paramount necessity of adopting immediate and stringent measures for the prevention of disorder and offenses against military discipline in your command. Straggling from camp, and marauding, and the unauthorized discharging of muskets are among the evils most noticeable, and must be stopped. No neglect in this matter will be overlooked. You will hold your subordinate commanders strictly responsible for the good order of their commands. The Tenth Corps is now brought in direct competition with another, and must not be allowed to suffer in any respect by the comparison.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Similar copies furnished Brigadier-General Turner, commanding Second Division, and Brigadier-General Ames, commanding Third Division.)

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 8, 1864—11 a. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Commanding Second Division:

Have your command, except the brigades sent out yesterday, in readiness to move at daybreak to-morrow in light marching order. You will direct the commanding officer of the brigade left behind

to detail all his able-bodied men, except enough for camp guard, to report to-morrow morning for fatigue duty to the officer who will remain in charge of the lines in front of General Terry's position.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH:

You will immediately cause to be arrested all white persons, male or female, above the age of fifteen years, within our lines, and send them to the commanding general.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 8, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General SMITH:

Has General Brooks returned? Please answer intelligently. Nobody has said to me whether General Brooks has or has not.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 8, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

GENERAL: General Brooks and his whole command returned last evening as soon as the wounded were removed. Colonel Dutton reported to you while here that General Brooks was then falling back. He has not yet received reports from all the brigades that were with him, but thinks 200 will cover his entire loss. I have received your order for the movement of to-morrow.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Bermuda Landing, Va., May 8, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

You will take all the troops that can be spared from your line and demonstrate to the front and left upon the railroad, pushing the work on your line with those that remain with all vigor. This movement will commence to-morrow morning at daylight, and is imperative. Former order which went out last night, and upon your letter to the chief of staff, is revoked. General Gillmore has orders to make the same demonstration to the right and front upon the railroad at the same hour via Ware Bottom Church.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Petersburg, Va., May 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. T. H. BROOKS,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires that you will issue the necessary orders immediately to have the cartridge-boxes of the men filled, and to take 20 rounds in their pockets. Ammunition chests of the artillery will be properly filled. The men will fill their canteens, and take one day's rations in haversacks. Your whole command, excepting one brigade, which you will designate and which will remain behind, will be in readiness to move at daybreak to-morrow. The pickets will not be removed.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

N. BOWEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

JAMES RIVER, *May 8, 1864*—9 a. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 9th. Received 4.30 p. m.)

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

I have just seen General Butler, who informed me that there was no military necessity for the naval vessels to go up to North Reach, as the height of the land there was such that they could render him no assistance, and that the occupation by the navy of Curl's Neck Reach will afford the army all the protection that it requires, from which my communications can easily be kept open.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral, Flag-Ship Malvern.

HEADQUARTERS SAINT MARY'S DISTRICT,
Point Lookout, May 8, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fort Monroe:

MAJOR: J. W. McDonald, keeper of the Smith's Point light-ship, sends word that he has information from shore that Johnston's army is arriving at Richmond.

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 8, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
A. A. G., Hdqrs. Dept. of Va. and N. C., Fort Monroe, Va.:

MAJOR: Since my letter of yesterday several deserters from the rebel forces have come in, and they all state that the force of the enemy in the last demonstration here was three brigades, that of Corse, Kemper, and a South Carolina brigade, probably that of Evans, who, I understand, was recently in Kinston, but who was so severely injured by a fall from his horse that he was unable to be with his command. At 10 o'clock on the 6th instant this force left very suddenly for Kinston. Our cavalry followed them to Pollocks-

ville, some 20 miles. Refugees from Little Washington report a small force of rebels there, and they appear to be determined to destroy the place. I am much mortified at the conduct of a portion of our troops during our last hours there. The refugees will be provided for and made as comfortable as possible. Our communication with Morehead is again open. The total amount of damage done between here and the coast was the capture of a detachment of the Fifth Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, under Captain Aigan, at the little post of Croatan, some 11 miles from here.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 8, 1864.

Maj. H. T. LAWSON,
Chief Provost-Marshal, District of North Carolina:

MAJOR: The commanding general directs me to call your attention to the necessity of compelling the utmost cleanliness among the prisoners of war and deserters from the enemy in your charge. The jail should be frequently policed and some means devised for giving these men frequent baths. The commanding general wishes you to prepare and forward to these headquarters special requisition for a shirt and a pair of drawers and socks for each man. They can then be able to wash their clothing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, May 9, 1864.

To the Friends of the Union and Liberty:

Enough is known of the army operations within the last five days to claim our especial gratitude to God, while what remains undone demands our most sincere prayers to and reliance upon Him, without whom all human efforts are in vain. I recommend that all patriots at their homes, in their places of public worship, and wherever they may be, unite in common thanksgiving and prayer to Almighty God.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, May 9, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: I inclose herewith all the information we have since Mr. Dana started from here. May God bless you, and crown you and your gallant army with victory.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

P. S.—Everything that comes will be forwarded you by the first opportunity. The road is open to Rappahannock Station. Trains

and supplies are there to bring back the wounded. Provision is also made for bringing them from Aquia, if that route should be preferred by you.

E. M. S.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
Above Port Walthall, May 8, 1864.
(Received 11.20 a. m. 9th.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

* * * * * * *

Transmitting an intercepted dispatch from General Lee to Secretary of War, C. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 6, 1864.

The SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

Early this morning, as the divisions of General Hill engaged yesterday were being relieved, the enemy advanced and caused some confusion. The ground lost was recovered as soon as the fresh troops got into position, and the enemy driven back to his original line. Afterward we turned the left of his front line and drove it from the field, leaving a large number of his dead and wounded in our hands, among them General Wadsworth. A subsequent attack forced the enemy into his intrenched lines on the Brock road, extending from Wilderness Tavern on the right to Trigg's Mill. Every advance on his part, thanks to a merciful God, has been repulsed. Our loss in killed is not large; but we have many wounded, most of them slightly, artillery being little used on either side. I grieve to announce that Lieutenant-General Longstreet was severely wounded, and General Jenkins killed. General Pegram was badly wounded yesterday. General Stafford, it is hoped, will recover.

R. E. LEE.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 9, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 4.15 p. m. 10th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

If matters are still favorable with Butler send him all the re-enforcements you can. The enemy are now moving from our immediate front either to interpose between us and Fredericksburg or to get the inside road to Richmond. My movements are terribly embarrassed by our immense wagon train. It could not be avoided, however.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

ALRICH'S, *May 9, 1864*—10.15 a. m.

General MEADE:

You will see by General Willcox's dispatch that he has met a force not far from the Gate. Under these circumstances I think it

advisable to send out scouts at once to the left of the road from Piney Branch Church, say from Sedgwick's position, to work their way over to the road from the Gate to Spotsylvania Court-House, to discover if there is any considerable movement of force in that direction. Should there prove to be it would become necessary to recall the trains and push the enemy's left flank vigorously.

Yours,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 9, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The inclosed dispatch,* together with the report from General Hancock, would indicate the enemy to be moving toward Gate. If this is the case, we must follow and attack vigorously. The trains should all be turned back so as to get them back of Alsop's and headed so that we may, if it should be decided upon, make a rapid march on Gordonsville.

Respectfully, &c.,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

MAY 9, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The enemy have undoubtedly left Hancock's front. I have ordered him up to join on to Gibbon's, leaving a division at Todd's Tavern. I have directed Gibbon to try and get a bridge which is across the Po River and leads to the enemy's extreme left. Burnside, i occupying the Gate, met the enemy; has been fighting all morning; holds his own. Ascertain, if you can, whether there are any roads from our left up to the Gate, as we may have to reenforce Burnside.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

Have Wright's skirmishers developed anything?

MEADE.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864.

1. Brigadier-General Patrick will detail 5 men from the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry to accompany the remains of the late Major-General Sedgwick to Belle Plain, Va. They will report to Major Whittier, aide-de-camp, for instructions. Upon the completion of this duty they will endeavor to proceed to Washington, D. C., and report to the commanding officer of the dismounted camp.

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*Not found as an inclosure.

2. Capts. R. F. Halsted and E. B. Beaumont, aides-de-camp, are authorized to accompany the remains of the late Major-General Sedgwick to Connecticut, when they will report by letter to these headquarters for instructions. The medical director will furnish one of the two-horse spring wagons at his disposal for the purpose of conveying the remains of the late General Sedgwick to Belle Plain.

3. Brig. Gen. W. H. Morris, having been wounded, is authorized to proceed to Washington, and will report to the medical director of the Department of Washington. Capt. H. C. Lockwood, aide-de-camp, is authorized to accompany him.

4. Maj. Charles A. Whittier, aide-de-camp, will proceed with the remains of the late General Sedgwick to Cornwall Hollow, Conn., and will there report by letter to these headquarters for instructions.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864—11.15 p. m.

The following movements are ordered for to-morrow, the 10th instant: The several corps will be held in readiness to advance against the enemy. Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps, will endeavor to ascertain the position and force of the enemy in his front and the location of his left flank. Brigadier-General Wright, commanding Sixth Corps, in like manner will feel for the enemy's right. Brigadier-General Mott will hold his command ready to move to the assistance of Major-General Burnside on hearing heavy firing in that direction.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, May 9, 1864. (Received 8.55 a. m. 10th.)

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: The Secretary of War directs that you immediately establish a pontoon bridge across the Rappahannock River opposite Fredericksburg. You will apply to the Quartermaster-General for transportation, and report to the Adjutant-General of the Army your progress and execution of this order. The remainder of your train and men will be held subject to the orders of General Meade, as heretofore.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
May 9, 1864.

General D. H. RUCKER,
Chief Quartermaster:

DEAR GENERAL: I am holding all my bridge material, save 2,500 feet, to be conveyed by water (I suppose south) the moment I receive

orders from the front. I of course can prepare for this the amount needed for the bridge you refer to by some twenty-two boats or 440 feet, and have all but the teams, of which it will require some 250 animals from the quartermaster's department here; and this bridge could be sent to-morrow forenoon from here, on the Secretary's own order, which of course I should need for my own protection. If the railroad were guarded from Aquia Creek to the river the teams might perhaps be dispensed with.

[H. W. BENHAM.]

RAPPAHANNOCK, *May* 9, 1864.

General BENHAM:

I have no orders from any one to return or stay. What shall be done? If return, transportation is needed.

H. V. SLOSSON,
Fifteenth New York Volunteer Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864—2.15 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Brigadier-General Gibbon and his command was not intended by paragraph 39 to be returned independent of contingencies to the Second Corps. It is designed that if practicable General Gibbon be held as a reserve, to be employed at such point as may be proved to be most essential. General Gibbon will therefore not for the present change his position. The heavy artillery is also a reserve at the disposal of Major-General Hancock.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION PICKET-LINE,
May 9, 1864. (Received 5.30 a. m.)

General [HANCOCK]:

Scouts report that the enemy have left our front. None are to be seen. I have sent out again with instructions to go on still farther than they have been and will report to you immediately.

A. L. LOCKWOOD,
Major and Division Officer of the Day.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—6 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I believe that the enemy have gone from this front. It is so foggy that nothing can be seen; but on pressing forward scouts in front of one of my brigades, nothing was found of the enemy for

2 miles, and citizens informed the scouts that the enemy left early this morning. I am feeling all around. I have not yet heard from my right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864—6.30 a. m. (Received 7.05 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding directs me to say he has received your dispatch informing him of the advance of the enemy. He has information of Ewell and Longstreet being on our left, and does not anticipate a heavy attack upon our right. The heavy artillery is ordered to you. Gibbon is ordered to move a mile nearer to you, and connect the pickets of his division with those of the division on his right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—7 a. m.

[General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:]

SIR: There is no doubt, I believe, that the enemy are moving infantry and artillery in my front in order to take the junction of the Spotsylvania and Catharpin roads, now in my possession. I have an entire second line of battle on the front, where they are forming, defended by rifle-pits, and am forming a third line on the crest this side, in connection with the batteries. I have sent for the heavy artillery holding the line of rifle-pits on the right, and pushing skirmishers out on my right, where I can at present find no enemy.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Headquarters:

The heavy artillery which is assigned to me as a reserve is not here, having been returned. I will notify Colonel Burton, however, that if he hears heavy firing to come up. If he is not required where he is now, I would prefer to have this reserve a little nearer to me.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 9, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Being satisfied that the enemy have left my right and front, I am about starting my First Division down the Spotsylvania road to connect with General Gibbon, who is, I understand, connecting with General Warren. I have sent out 2 miles to my front on the Catharpin road, where I met a squadron of enemy's cavalry at the junction of a cross-road leading to the left.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864—12 m. (Received 12.15 p. m.)

General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding wishes you to move your corps toward the Fifth Corps and as far as the point indicated by Lieutenant-Colonel Comstock, which is the white house where General Gibbon's right now rests. You will leave a division with a suitable amount of artillery to hold the cross-roads at Todd's Tavern, keeping up your communication with Gibbon and the division left at Todd's Tavern. All this presupposes that the enemy are not in great force in your front, and are not threatening you at Todd's Tavern. All information here leads to the belief that they are passing to our left and you will be needed here.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 9, 1864—12.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

SIR: What shall I do with the heavy artillery of Colonel Burton? Shall I leave it here or take it along? My troops are moving. General Mott will be left in charge at Todd's Tavern; General Barlow on the right of Gibbon; General Birney on the extreme right, with the heavy artillery in reserve, as I place them with reference to Gibbon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 1.15 p. m.)

[General HANCOCK:]

I think you had better leave the heavy artillery with Mott, as they will be nearer to Piney Branch Church, unless there is a road from Birney's to that place. The Artillery Reserve which they guard is at Piney Branch Church.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
Todd's Tavern, May 9, 1864—1.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have received your dispatch in reference to leaving the heavy artillery at this point, and have given orders for that purpose, placing it under the orders of General Mott until it is sent for.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINFD S. HANCOCK.
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—7 p. m.

General MEADE:

SIR: General Barlow is already going to advance, and I have told Gibbon to allow him to pass if he is not himself ready.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINFD S. HANCOCK.
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 9, 1864—10 p. m.

[General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:]

GENERAL: The advance of my column rests at the bridge over the Po, about 1 mile from the Block house, and half way between the cross-road and Block house. When the head of the column reached the river it was dark, and, owing to the great difficulties of an advance, Colonel Morgan halted the column until he could communicate with me, and I have not yet ordered it forward. The river is so deep that the flankers and skirmishers could not cross without swimming, and the darkness and thick woods near the stream caused great confusion and risk of firing into our men. I am informed that the bridge is intact.

The cross-roads is held by a regiment, and the rear of column rests near the same point. The skirmishers are on the river, and the flankers about one-third of a mile out. Knowing that General Grant's intention was for the column to move on, I can still give the order, but do not think it wise, and await your instruction. A skirmish line (thin), supposed of cavalry, came on the right flank near the cross-road. Heth's division, Hill's corps, passed the cross-road from 8 to 11 this morning; since then it has been held by 200 cavalry and a section of artillery. I cannot cross the river to-night without calling in my flankers and skirmishers and crossing them on the bridge. You can judge of the propriety of the measure—if the enemy are there. If they are not there, they have probably disappeared from Crawford's front.

WINFD S. HANCOCK.
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864—12 m. (Received 12.30 a. m. 10th.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch of 10 p. m. received. The major-general commanding directs that the column move forward again at daylight in accordance with the directions issued to-night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864.

[General HANCOCK:]

GENERAL: General Grant thinks that Mott's division, of your corps, had better be moved to Wright's left, in order to prevent the enemy interposing between Wright and Burnside. Please order him to leave at 3 a. m. to-morrow. Captain Paine, of the Engineers, will show him, or send a guide, a position now occupied by two of Wright's regiments, which, from all accounts, will be a suitable one. He must establish a connection with General Wright on his right and try to find some communication with Burnside at the Gate. The heavy artillery brigade should return at the same time to Piney Branch Church.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Todd's Tavern, May 9, 1864—12 m.

The corps will move as follows: General Barlow immediately, taking post on the right of General Gibbon; Artillery Reserve; General Birney's division, taking post on the right of General Barlow, the Artillery Brigade remaining in reserve in rear of General Birney. General Mott will remain at Todd's Tavern and hold the cross-roads, collecting all his men in advance, and will be governed by the special instructions. The ammunition and other trains that follow the troops will accompany the command.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 9, 1864.

Colonel MORGAN,
Chief of Staff, or
General BARLOW:

Captain Thickstun, signal officer, reports column of cavalry moving on road leading to Spotsylvania Court-House, same road that wagons moved on.

J. E. HOLLAND,
Signal Officer.

MAY 9, 1864.

General BARLOW:

Cross with your whole force at once.

HANCOCK,
General.

MAY 9, 1864—6 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

I have crossed with one brigade and taken the road and can hold it. Shall I cross with my division?

BARLOW,
General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 9, 1864—8 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

It is found impracticable to move in line of battle through the woods. General Barlow is ahead on the road, his troops in column. I have sent on to know whether he expects me to march on his left or in column in his rear. It will be two hours before my bridge is fit to cross artillery.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—11 a. m.

General BIRNEY,
Commanding Division:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that you will move immediately after General Mott; the troops will be inspired with the necessity of moving rapidly; the heavy artillery will hold the position at Todd's Tavern, with one of your batteries picketing the line of your rifle pits, and occupying the position around the house. You will obstruct the roads in rear and right flank. Guards will be placed along the roads coming in from the right, to keep back cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—5.50 p. m.

Colonel MORGAN:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that you order General Birney across at once. Gibbon has crossed with his skirmishers and is building a bridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—6 p. m.

General BIRNEY :

SIR : The major-general commanding directs that you cross the river and push in the direction of Spotsylvania Court-House, where Gibbon's and Barlow's divisions will precede you. Keep a lookout for your right flank as well; build good bridges where you may cross. The enemy may be met at Block house, then a bridge will have to be built by the advancing troops, and bridges should also be built wherever we stop (if possible), connecting us with this side of the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORD PO RIVER, *May* 9, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General HANCOCK :

We have crossed the river and found nothing as yet but a heavy skirmish line. Am driving them to the left. I am now crossing another regiment.

BIRNEY,
General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General BIRNEY :

SIR : The major-general commanding directs that in the advance, after crossing toward Spotsylvania Court-House, the divisions will advance in the order they are formed on the road. As soon as possible the advance will be pushed forward as far as it can be done. Also, information should be gleaned as to the enemy, his whereabouts, &c., and fully communicated to these headquarters. The enemy's position was at the Block house. Until the crossing is effected great care must be taken to send out advanced commands, the supports of which will always be close behind on the same road. Division commanders will see that the road is kept open between themselves, by pickets or otherwise.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY :

SIR : The major-general commanding directs that division commanders give such support as may be required to each other, and that the road between them be kept open by skirmishers. The headquarters of the corps will be at General Gibbon's headquarters, or at

army headquarters, and all information will be promptly forwarded to the major-general commanding, or, in his absence, to Major-General Meade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 11.25 a. m.)

General MOTT,
Commanding Division:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that you at once relieve General Barlow's line of pickets. The line need not be a strong one. Your own line need no longer be a strong one. It is important that the change should be made rapidly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—12 m.

General MOTT:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that you call your picket-line in pretty close, so that it can be drawn quickly inside the intrenchments, but still leaving small parties out on the roads on your front. Make the line very thin. You will be relieved very soon by the heavy artillery. Let your present pickets be relieved by a regiment, so that it can move together when withdrawn. Obstruct the roads leading out of your front, if it is not already done.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—12.15 p. m.

General MOTT,
Commanding Division:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that you take charge of Todd's Tavern and hold the position. You will keep the artillery of your division with you. If you find that you can do better, you can place your troops in the intrenchments around Todd's Tavern, and picket the rifle-pits until you connect with General Birney, who will be on your left and front. The roads should be obstructed (those leading to the front and right), and men sent out on the roads with guards where the intrenchment crosses the roads. If an enemy threaten you can meet him either on the inner or outer line, as you think best. If by the Brock road, you had better meet him in the outer intrenchments, having the other occupied. The best way will

be to have scouts constantly out and returning on the roads. You will probably have nothing but cavalry around you. Your special object is to hold the cross-roads by Todd's Tavern and keep up a picket connection with General Birney. A rifle-pit (which will be marked out by Captain Turnbull, of the Engineers) should be built to continue from your left battery covering the two main roads leading to the front, where you are at once to collect the intrenching tools, and at the first opportunity have them reported to the officer in charge at these headquarters. Your headquarters will be at Todd's Tavern.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 9, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General MOTT,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The heavy artillery is now in front of the intrenchments. You can withdraw it when the troops are past, if you think best.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—6 p. m. (Received 7 p. m.)

General MOTT:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that the hospital train with the wounded may come on to this point (General Gibbon's headquarters) when the medical director of the corps requires it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TODD'S TAVERN,
May 9, 1864. (Received 11.40 p. m.)

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed to procure a guide to show you the road from Todd's Tavern, via Hugh Alsop's, to the Tabernacle Church road, and have procured from Colonel Sharpe a colored man who knows the route very well.

Yours,

W. H. PAINE,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864. (Received 11.50 p. m.)

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Comdg. Fourth Division, Second Army Corps:

GENERAL: By direction of the major-general commanding, I have the honor to send you a copy of instructions* from General Meade, respecting your division, which he directs will be complied with in every particular.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864.

General MOTT:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that the heavy artillery remain at Todd's Tavern until sent for to rejoin the Artillery Reserve of the army. You will so inform the commanding officer of that brigade and take command of it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
Todd's Tavern, May 9, 1864—11.40 p. m.

Col. J. H. KITCHING,
Commanding Heavy Artillery:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to say that he will leave here at 3 a. m. to-morrow. As soon as he gets away you will call in your pickets and return again to Piney Branch Church.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:
T. W. EAYRE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 9, 1864—12 m.

Col. JOHN RAMSEY,
Commanding Provisional Brigade:

COLONEL: You will command a provisional brigade to consist of your own and the Twenty-sixth and Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Third Excelsior, and Sixteenth Massachusetts Volunteers. The First Excelsior will report to Colonel Blaisdell when we march.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:
T. W. EAYRE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See Meade to Hancock, p. 568.

MAY 9, 1864—6.45 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that your pickets be well thrown out so as to watch the enemy closely. He directs that in his absence, in any combined operation on the left by both the Fifth and Sixth Corps, General Sedgwick take command of both corps besides commanding his own.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAJOR-GENERAL WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 9, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

We opened from our rifled guns a little after 4 o'clock, but the fog and smoke made our firing very uncertain. The enemy fired back but little. We developed a battery pretty well to our left, hidden by the woods. The enemy's guns can be seen about the Court-House now that the fog has lifted. The Sixth Corps pickets were withdrawn, but I have established a line of my own and am pushing them out on my left. I have no report from the cavalry on my left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Memorandum.]

MONDAY MORNING, *May* 9, 1864—7.40.

Met General Sedgwick in the salient of our breast-works. Says he, "Where is General Warren? I want to see him." Says I, "Right here." "Well," says General Sedgwick, "he has just showed me the order putting me in command of the two corps (Fifth and Sixth); just tell General Warren to go on and command his own corps as usual. I have perfect confidence that he will do what is right, and knows what to do with his corps as well as I do."

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Brigadier-General Wright has been placed in command of the Sixth Corps. In the event of combined operations of the Fifth and Sixth Corps, and in the absence of the major-general commanding the army, you will command both.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FIFTH CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
May [9], 1864.

Captain MARVIN:

Column of cavalry moving southeast on Shady Grove Church and Brock house road.

D. E. CASTLE.

RIGHT FRONT, *May* 9, 1864—1.50 p. m.

Captain MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A heavy force of cavalry is concentrating on our right. I think our skirmishers are fighting dismounted cavalry.

MAGILL.

RIGHT FRONT SIGNAL STATION.
May [9], 1864.

Captain MARVIN:

The enemy's cavalry have moved toward our left and disappeared from our view. A battery to the right of me was the cause of the movement.

MAGILL.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864. (Received 5.40 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN:

Hancock has pushed across the creek in his front, on your right, and is now about to advance his whole corps in the direction of Block house. I wish you would push your skirmishers out and feel if the enemy are in force.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 9, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General MEADE:

I have obeyed an order brought by Major Mitchell to General Crawford, to connect my line of battle with Gibbon, and I have done so. I think, however, that a skirmish line was sufficient connection, as it is on a line perpendicular to my line of battle and looks out on the wide open meadow, where there is no enemy. I think there is some mistake about it, and hesitate to do it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[NOTE IN PENCIL.]—Dispatch to advance pickets received at 5.50 p. m. Order given at once.

G. K. W.

CIRCULAR. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 40. } *May* 9, 1864—12 p. m.

Division commanders will make sure to have their commands prepared for any demonstration of the enemy by daylight. It is designed, also, to force the enemy's pickets back to his line of battle, and ascertain its location, and early preparations will be made accordingly to advance when ordered.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The Richmond papers report General Butler's command to be within 10 miles of Richmond, on the south side.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 9, 1864.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL FIFTH CORPS:

I send a battle-flag taken last night by a detachment of the Twenty-second Massachusetts, under command of Captain Field. About 50 prisoners were reported as having been taken. Sent in last night.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 9, 1864—10 a. m.

General WARREN:

GENERAL: I shall have the Third Brigade and a portion of the First available in case of need, and two lines along my entire front.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864.

Captain MARVIN:

SIR: The officer of my picket-line reports the pickets connected with both Griffin and Crawford. My center is being straightened up. A brigade of Crawford's men went out, as General Crawford says, without [orders], and ran into the center of my line, and have got into confusion there. As soon as we can get them out of the way I shall be all right. I don't believe the works reported to General Rice amount to much, as I have sent men out a long distance beyond the pickets.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General SEDGWICK,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you extend your pickets well to the left, and have them so close to the enemy as to

watch him well. In any combined operation on the left by both the Fifth and Sixth Corps, the major-general commanding directs that you will, in his absence, assume command of both, besides continuing to command your own corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 21. } *In Field, 4 miles north of Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 9, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. Horatio G. Wright, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby temporarily assigned to the command of the Sixth Army Corps, and will assume command at once.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General WRIGHT, U. S. Volunteers:

The major-general commanding directs that you assume command of the Sixth Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Indorsement.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 9, 1864.

In compliance with the above order, Brigadier-General Wright assumes command of the Sixth Corps.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

ARTHUR McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—2.05 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The pickets on my left have been pushed forward nearly a mile without developing anything. I do not propose advancing them further unless it is desired. Nothing discovered on our left flank within same distance.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Indorsement.

I have questioned a man living at the house I mentioned yesterday, now on our picket-line, but as yet can find no road leading from here to Gate. Will inquire still further, and have examination made. Will examine personally.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I inclose report of General Russell in relation to reconnaissance. Lieutenant Mackenzie has already communicated the same information. Does the general wish those regiments to remain in their position, or shall I withdraw them?

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 9, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MCMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Captain Paine just returned from the party on the reconnaissance. He states that they have advanced to within sight of the road, but fell back a little on finding that the enemy were in front of them; but ascertaining that the enemy were not in any great force they prepared to move forward again when he left.

Respectfully,

D. A. RUSSELL,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 9, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I respectfully report the following as the result of the advance of the picket-line ordered this evening:

General Ricketts' right brigade, connecting with Fifth Corps, advanced its picket-line about 600 yards, and came upon a morass, which had to be crossed by the flank. After crossing, the line received a cross-fire and fell back to its former position. The left brigade advanced about 1,000 yards and came within about 300 yards of the enemy's intrenchments; here it received a pretty severe fire and retired to its former position. The losses in this division were about 20 killed and wounded. General Neill advanced his line something over a quarter of a mile, meeting but feeble resistance on the left, but coming upon a line of battle upon the right center the line fell back a short distance, and now remains about quarter of a mile in advance of its former position. Loss not reported in this division. General Russell, whose pickets were already thrown forward beyond the general line, advanced only far enough to maintain the connection with General Neill on his right. He met with no resistance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General WRIGHT:

I have no objection, in case you can spare their services, to permit General Sedgwick's aides, personal and volunteer, to accompany his remains.

Respectfully yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[MAY 9, 1864.]

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding:

I should be glad to have the three regular aides, Major Whittier, Captain Beaumont, and Captain Halsted, accompany the remains of the general, and should freely consent to the others going also, did I not require their services. Indeed I cannot dispense with them.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. G. WRIGHT,
Commanding First Division:

It is intended to remain in position to-day to distribute ammunition and rations, to bring up stragglers, and to afford the men rest. Please send in to these headquarters for tools, and strengthen your position by intrenching. Please send in a full return, and also an estimate of your casualties in recent operations.

By command of Major-General Sedgwick:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Indorsement.)

Brigade commanders will comply with the above orders, sending their working parties to these headquarters, where they will be furnished with tools.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
No. —. } *May 9*, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. D. A. Russell is relieved from the command of the Second Division, and will assume command of the First Division of this corps.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright, commanding corps:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 9, 1864.

In obedience to the above order, the undersigned assumes command of this division.

D. A. RUSSELL.
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General RICKETTS,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding the corps desires that you will rectify your lines as soon as it is light enough, and that you will strengthen your position by intrenchments. Send to these headquarters for such tools as you require, and they will be forwarded at once. It is intended to remain in position to-day to give the men rest. Please send in this morning a field return of your command, and make a report also of the estimated casualties in the division. Send out parties after daylight and frequently through the day to collect your stragglers in the rear. Please send at once for the tools. They are in wagons ready to be sent out.

By command of Major-General Sedgwick:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 9, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Send out a small force from Gate toward Spotsylvania to reconnoiter the roads and enemy's position in that direction, and especially have all roads leading to your right between Gate and Spotsylvania examined and their condition ascertained, and whether they lead to the positions occupied by General Meade's forces near Spotsylvania or to roads immediately in their rear. Have these cross-roads marked on a map, which you will send to these headquarters. In these reconnaissances use your cavalry as far as practicable. Move the division of white troops forming your rear guard to Piney Branch Church, leaving the colored troops where they now are, but so disposed as to guard your rear. Let all your troops not used as herein directed get all the rest possible during the day. Please send in by 5 p. m., or sooner if you can, the effective strength of your forces.

By order of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Alrich's, May 9, 1864—9.25 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: The inclosed dispatch just received from General Willcox. I have received your dispatch of 8.45 this morning, and have

sent the necessary instructions to General Willcox. I am glad to learn from Major Lydig that you will visit these headquarters this morning. The division will be sent to Piney Branch at once.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HALF MILE FROM GAYLE'S HOUSE.
May 9, 1864—7.15 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Found the enemy's vedettes one-half mile before reaching Gayle's house. They are retiring before my skirmishers.

GAYLE'S HOUSE—8 a. m.

The enemy show considerable force of cavalry and, I think, infantry, but it is hazy, and I am not sure. Their skirmish lines are deployed as though they meant fight.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 9, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

You will please direct the general commanding the division of your troops ordered to Piney Branch Church to send out staff officers to learn and acquaint themselves with the roads leading from Piney Branch Church to the positions of Generals Warren and Sedgwick, near Spotsylvania, and to General Hancock, at Todd's Tavern; also, to hold his division in readiness at Piney Branch Church to move to the support of either Warren and Sedgwick or to General Hancock, as he may be directed on the receipt. When the division receives orders to move it must be conducted by one of those staff officers who have familiarized themselves with the roads on which it is to move, that there may be no delay.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 9, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

If after going to the Gate in person you deem it necessary, move up your three white divisions without hesitancy or reference to previous orders.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Alrich's, May 9, 1864—12.45 [p. m.].

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: General Willcox reports himself heavily engaged with equal or superior numbers. This was prior to Stevenson joining him. I have sent a staff officer to him with instructions to report to me the state of affairs. I have ordered General Willcox to hold his position if possible, and have directed General Potter to halt a mile this side of Piney Branch Church, where he was ordered with a view to supporting General Willcox, if it becomes necessary. He can easily be moved to Piney Branch Church in a few minutes. General Willcox reports Generals Longstreet's and Hill's corps at Spotsylvania. Please send me word by bearer if I have done right in retaining General Potter; if not, I will send him at once to Piney Branch Church.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 9, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I will direct the chief quartermaster to turn his trains back, so as to fall toward Chancellorsville if necessary. The enemy have disappeared from our right, moving in the direction of Gate evidently, which will enable us to follow from here. Direct Willcox to intrench and hold his position strongly, only falling back at the last extremity, expecting the enemy, if they have gone in force toward him, to be attacked from here.

Respectfully, &c.,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 9, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I hear artillery firing in the direction of Gate. I think it will be advisable for you to go there and take general charge in person.

Yours, truly,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 9, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Comdg. Ninth Army Corps:*

Dispatches inclosing General Willcox's of 1.15 p. m.* received and communicated to General Meade. Order up the other division at once to support of Willcox.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

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*See p. 584.

MAY 9, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch of 12.45 is just received. You will see from dispatch sent from these headquarters you have done right in stopping General Potter's division and holding in readiness to go to General Willcox.

Respectfully, &c.,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS.
Alsop's, May 9, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: I have the honor to send you two orderlies who know the way to my present headquarters. The position occupied by General Willcox is at Mr. Gayle's house, there being no such place as Gate in this section, and is 3 miles farther from Alrich's than we supposed; in fact, his position is within 1½ miles of Spotsylvania Court-House, and there seems to be no way of connecting with General Meade; I mention this so that you may see whether or not the position is not too much isolated. I have a strong guard at Tabernacle Church, and have directed General Ferrero as to the roads leading out of Chancellorsville. I will await here such orders as you may send by the orderlies.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS.
Alrich's, May 9, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The inclosed dispatch* has just been received from Lieutenant-General Grant, and is sent to you for information and guidance. Look out well for your flanks, and furnish these headquarters with frequent information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS.
May 9, 1864—11.15 a. m.

General WILLCOX:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you hold your own as long as it is possible, and keep a sharp lookout for your flanks. Your dispatch has been forwarded to General Grant. Please forward frequent information to these headquarters.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See Rawlins to Burnside, p. 580.

MAY 9, 1864—11.45 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

The contest extremely doubtful. Enemy have developed themselves equal, or vastly superior in numbers, to mine. I have not yet heard of Stevenson. My troops are doing well. Have been driven in some points, but have recovered for the most part. Hill's and Longstreet's corps are reported at Spotsylvania. You cannot have received my dispatches. I am heavily engaged against superior numbers. Where is Stevenson?

O. B. WILLCOX,
By W. V. RICHARDS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Forwarded to General Grant by Maj. Gen. A. E. Burnside.)

NY RIVER, GAYLE'S HOUSE,
May 9, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General BURNSIDE:

The enemy seem to be moving off to the left. I have repulsed them at every point. I think the object of their attack was to cover their flank movement. Some cavalry would be of great use to me. A column of cavalry have passed toward the right, but I think it is a ruse. Heavy firing ceased at 12. General Stevenson has come up.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Per RICHARDS.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—1 p. m.

General WILLCOX:

GENERAL: The inclosed dispatch* has just been received and is forwarded for your information and guidance. You will hold your position to the last. General Potter is halted near Alrich's and can be sent to you if necessary. My headquarters will be near Alrich's house for the present.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

GAYLE'S HOUSE, *May 9*, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I am confirmed in my opinion that their trains are moving off to the left. I am shelling them vigorously with the best effect. I can see it from the house top. We have taken prisoners from Longstreet's, Ewell's, and Hill's corps. They massed heavily in my front, but, thank God, we have repulsed them so far. I have just received your first dispatch. Stevenson got up at 12, and I think I can hold my own, unless they make another attack with heavier reenforcements. I have massed my artillery on this side of the river in good position for their coming down the crest. Christ, Morrison, and all have done splendidly. Morrison wounded in the hand.

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* See Grant to Burnside, 12.45 p. m., May 9, p. 582.

1.45 P. M.

Later.—The enemy appear now to be making a demonstration on our right with infantry and artillery.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Per RICHARDS.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Perry's Crossing of Plank and Dirt Road,
May 9, 1864—4.20 p. m.

General WILLCOX:

GENERAL: Major Cutting's dispatch of 3.30 just received. I have sent you word by Captain Pike to intrench and hold your position. Colonel Marshall is at Alsop's, within supporting distance of your forces, and General Potter is now moving up to near Silver's, on the plank road, where he will be in supporting distance of Colonel Marshall. Please give to this same orderly a fresh horse and report to me by him your exact position. If necessary, Colonel Marshall and General Potter can move up to your aid.

Very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION,
In the Field, May 9, 1864.

[Capt. ROBERT A. HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:]

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders from division headquarters I have the honor to make the following report of the effective strength of this brigade: Total present, enlisted men, 2,250.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. HUMPHREY,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 3D DIV., 9TH ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864.

Regimental commanders will report on the bottom of this circular, opposite their respective regiments, the effective strength of their commands now present.

By order of Col. B. C. Christ:

JOHN WINDSOR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

	Officers	Enlisted men
79th New York Volunteers	13	175
50th Pennsylvania Volunteers	15	301
20th Michigan Volunteers	19	328
1st Michigan Sharpshooters	24	420
60th Ohio Volunteers	14	279
Total	85	1,483

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864.

General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

General Burnside directs that the cavalry brigade under Lieutenant-Colonel Hammond report to you.

Respectfully,

F. VAN VLIET,
First Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Alrich's, May 9, 1864—11 a. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: There are some indications of a cavalry force passing around by the Old Wilderness Tavern, crossing the Ely's Ford road, with a view no doubt to intercept some of our trains lying in this vicinity. Let the two cavalry regiments under Colonel Hammond feel out in that direction, and if the force is not too large to attack they should try to drive them out. You can support them by one or two regiments of infantry if you think best.

Very respectfully, yours.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
May 9, 1864.

General AUGUR:

The First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, Colonel Abbot, will be immediately relieved from duty in the fortifications, and sent, with proper supplies, as infantry to James River to report for duty to General Butler.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., May 9, 1864.

Commander F. A. PARKER,
Commanding Potomac Flotilla, Saint Mary's, Md.:

The Army of the Potomac are to send their wounded to Fredericksburg. They will open communications through Belle Plain. General Halleck asks that a couple of light-draughts ascend to Fredericksburg if possible. Be very careful of torpedoes, and send a prudent man to command, who will use sound discretion about going up and the utmost care.

G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary.

WAR DEPARTMENT.
May 9, 1864—10 a. m.
(Received 11.55 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Advices from the front give reason to believe that General Grant's operations will prove a great success and complete victory. On Saturday night the enemy had been driven at all points, and Hancock was pushing forward rapidly to Spotsylvania Court-House, where heavy firing was heard yesterday. It was reported yesterday by a deserter that the enemy's only hope was in heavy re-enforcements from Beauregard.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT.
May 9, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

A bearer of dispatches from General Meade has just reached here by way of Fredericksburg; states that on Friday night Lee's army fell back, and yesterday were in full retreat for Richmond, Grant pursuing with his army. Hancock passed Spotsylvania Court-House before daylight yesterday morning. Meade's headquarters were yesterday at Todd's Tavern. We occupy Fredericksburg. The Twenty-second New York [Cavalry] occupied it about 8 o'clock last night.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT.
May 9, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

A dispatch from General Grant has just been received. He is on the march with his whole army to form a junction with you, but had not determined his route. Another dispatch from him is being translated.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

[MAY 9, 1864.—For Butler to Stanton, see p. 10.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C., May 9, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Colonel BIGGS,
Chief Quartermaster, Fortress Monroe:

We need steam power to tow barges and schooners with supplies and horses. We have also about 2,000 to 3,000 men to send to re-enforce General Butler, among them a veteran regiment of artillery. Send steam tow-boats and also steamers to transport these men up James River. Do this immediately.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

JAMESTOWN, VA., *May* 9, 1864—4 a. m.

Maj. T. T. ECKERT:

I left General Butler's headquarters, 5 miles from Bermuda Landing, 9 p. m. All quiet, and ready to move in the morning. West's cavalry expedition crossing at Harrison's Landing to join us. I will start line to-morrow. All working fine. Will endeavor to keep you posted.

R. O'BRIEN.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 9, 1864—5 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

My cavalry have arrived, but must have a couple of hours' rest. At 7 I will make the demonstration to the right with them which was proposed. Please inform your cavalry scouts so that there may be no mistakes.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL TENTH CORPS:

SIR: You will see to it that the order to General Gillmore gets to him at once, and as soon as he has given the necessary orders he will repair to my headquarters for consultation.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—5 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

No cavalry has reported to me yet. In advancing beyond Ware Bottom Church the right and rear of the column will be so exposed that I must leave a portion of my infantry there. I would request that the cavalry be hurried forward.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

William S. Hunting reports General Gillmore just starting from his headquarters, and his column just began to move when he received this dispatch.

B. F. B.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—6.40 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Dispatch received. I leave two regiments of infantry where the roads fork to the right of Ware Bottom Church. When you can relieve them with cavalry please order them to follow this command up to the turnpike to join their command.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I am waiting for the cavalry. The pickets are engaged on my right, and I do not like to leave this place till the cavalry comes.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—8.10 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER

General Ames is destroying the railroad. General Turner is within supporting distance. Terry, except two regiments, is behind Turner.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

A few of the enemy's cavalry are on the turnpike on our right. Can you not send and drive them away or capture them? There may be a heavier force behind them and the pike should be struck by the cavalry this side of the creek you mention.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 9, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE:

I would respectfully suggest to you that I think we can capture a force of rebels supposed to be stationed at the Junction, if you will swing your right well around so as to come in their rear. We can then destroy the road at our leisure.

Very respectfully,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Turnpike, May 9, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER

I have just received dispatches from General Smith, and shall move my command toward the left on the railroad to keep up communication with him. My headquarters will be with General Ames' division on or near the railroad. No enemy on the railroad, so far as I know.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

My three brigades are closed up on the right of the Eighteenth Corps. Ames has been deployed, but now awaits Weitzel's advance to form on his right. I sent you the boy that brought the information forwarded to you by Lieutenant-Colonel Smith. Your dispatches to me must have miscarried, for I have received no order for over two hours.

Yours, &c.,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—3.35 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Do you desire me to extend my command, or any portion of it, on the right of the Eighteenth Corps, or have you any orders to give? The men are well rested now.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
May 9, 1864—5.30 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

At 5 a. m. sent dispatch relating to cavalry. When I arrive with the cavalry I will order forward your infantry. Please so inform your officers.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[MAY 9, 1864.—For Gillmore and Smith to Butler and Butler's reply, see p. 35.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I inclose dispatches* just received from Colonel Voris, commanding one of the regiments left on our right this morning. I have had additional consultation with General Smith in regard to withdrawing within the intrenchments. We think it should be done by all means as there is nothing to gain here but what can be secured with more certainty by the plan suggested in the dispatch sent in by General Devens.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 9, 1864—10.20 p. m.

General GILLMORE,
Commanding, &c.:

Make such dispositions of your forces as to render safe your right if threatened by the enemy.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—4 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY:
Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER:
Brig. Gen. A. AMES:

GENERALS: Make arrangements to supply your command with rations from the landing near General Smith's headquarters, or from your own camp if you have them.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Captain RICHMOND:

Your two reports are received. A section of artillery will be added to the regiment already sent. Remain with the infantry and make report to the commanding officer.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—6.45 p. m.

OFFICER COMMANDING AT BRANDON BRIDGE:

Have the creek above and below the bridge for a mile each way thoroughly examined to-night for a ford. Let the men wade into it and examine its depth accurately. Report to General Gillmore by 3 a. m. to-morrow at the place where you last saw him.

By command of Major-General Gillmore

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864.

Colonel OSBORN,
Twenty-fourth Massachusetts:

Join your command under General Terry, taking with you the section of artillery. This is provided General Butler has given no orders to the contrary.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—9.05 a. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

General Ames is destroying the road. General Turner has turned in at Winfree's. You are expected to support Turner, striking the railroad as soon as possible and destroying it. Osborn has been ordered to join you.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—9.35 a. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

Turner is on the railroad at Chester Station. Concentrate your command at Winfree's, except the pioneers; send the latter to the railroad to assist in its destruction. You can leave a few companies on it.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—8.33 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: For about half an hour I have had my engineer companies on the railroad destroying it. I have a number of fires going for the destruction of the rails as directed. I have just heard a few shots by the pickets on the other side of the track. My officers report 100 or 200 yards of the road destroyed.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

P. S. A civilian taken reports no troops (rebels) north of here and south of Drewry's Bluff.

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 9, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The head of my column is near the junction of the pike and railroad. The troops of the Eighteenth Army Corps (General Weitzel's column) are filing over the railroad.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 9, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department of Virginia, &c.:

GENERAL: I am of opinion that if you order General Gillmore to stop destroying the road at present, and to swing his right well around, he can take a force of rebels at the railroad junction, and perhaps take Petersburg early to-day. We can then destroy the road at our leisure.

Very respectfully,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Railroad, May 9, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

Dispatch received. General Gillmore is moving his troops to aid you as you suggest. We have got the railroad pretty well destroyed already.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 9, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General MARTINDALE:

Please send word of your situation. The enemy are across Swift Creek, said to be fortifying. Can you enfilade their lines? Be careful your own are not enfiladed from the fort. We are on the railroad and have passed the Junction toward Petersburg and are advancing.

By command, &c.:

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 9, 1864—6.35 p. m.

General HINKS:

Upon consultation it is thought best that you should not advance beyond your picket-line before 7 o'clock, so that all the force may be drawn to the advance of General Smith. When you hear his guns and have word from him, engage the enemy and push on.

B. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 9, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General HINKS,
Commanding, &c.:

We have very good news from the Army of the Potomac. This involves change of plan. You will, therefore, not move on Peters-

burg. Labor diligently to make all safe at City Point, and go yourself at once to Fort Powhatan to give personal supervision to the work neglected by Colonel Stafford.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 9, 1864—10 p. m.

General BUTLER:

I have returned to City Point with the column. I am quite ill.

HINKS,
General.

[Memorandum by Signal Operator.]

MAY 9, 1864.

Accompanied General Hinks on a reconnaissance toward Petersburg, in order to communicate with General Graham, commanding army gun-boats on the Appomattox, and if possible with Major-General Smith, on the left bank of the river. General Smith's forces were not in sight at any time during the day. When the army boats had passed Point of Rocks the rebels opened fire from a battery called Fort Clifton.

FORT MONROE, *May 9, 1864.*

Brigadier-General SHEPLEY:

Have the Twenty-first Connecticut at once prepared to go to the front. Will send transportation.

By command of Major-General Butler:

HENRY T. SCHROEDER,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EXTERIOR LINE OF DEFENSES,
Fort Magruder, May 9, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

I have the honor to report that I have assumed command of this place. I wish to be informed whether the post of Yorktown is included in my command.

JOS. B. CARR,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

FORT MONROE, *May 9, 1864.*
(Received 6.10 p. m.)

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Bermuda Hundred:

Attack on New Berne. After two days' fighting the enemy retired. Captain Smith, U. S. Navy, attacked the ram and drove her up Roanoke River. Were unable to sink her or roll her over.

HENRY T. SCHROEDER,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

BURLINGTON, N. J., *May* 10, 1864.
(Received 10.45 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I understand that some of the New Jersey regiments have suffered severely in the recent battles. I send agents to care for the wounded. Do you need additional surgeons? I can send some if you wish. Answer to Burlington.

J. PARKER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 10, 1864—1 p. m.

Governor PARKER,
Burlington, N. J.:

The Surgeon-General reports to me on your telegram of this morning that for the present there is sufficient medical aid, but if more be needed you will be called on.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 10, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of yesterday was received this evening. I send herewith dispatches* from Generals Sherman and Butler which contain all that we have from them to this date. This Department is now in telegraphic communication with Belle Plain. The dispatch-boat Diamond will receive and deliver all dispatches to and from you, which will save some hours in transmission. It is reported that matters are not well organized at Fredericksburg, and I send Brigadier-General Slough, an active and energetic man, there for police duty, as military governor, subject to your orders.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, May 10, 1864—9.30 a. m.
(Received 7.45 a. m. 11th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Enemy hold our front in very strong force and evince a strong determination to interpose between us and Richmond to the last. I shall take no backward steps, but may be compelled to send back to Belle Plain for further supplies. Please have supplies of forage and provisions sent there at once and 50 rounds of ammunition (infantry) for 100,000 men. Send General Benham with the necessary bridge train for the Rappahannock. We can maintain ourselves at least, and in the end beat Lee's army, I believe. Send to Belle Plain all the infantry you can rake and scrape. With present position of the

*See Sherman to Stanton, Vol. XXXVIII, and Butler to Stanton, May 9, p. 10.

armies 10,000 men can be spared from the defenses of Washington, besides all the troops that have reached there since Burnside's departure. Some may also be brought from Wallace's department. We want no more wagons nor artillery.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Wright reports the enemy on his left moving rapidly to his right. I have ordered him to push forward his left, and gain as much ground as possible so as to save Hancock's distance.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

A scout just in from the right says there is no infantry beyond Barlow's right but a cavalry force at Corbin's Bridge. Under these circumstances I have directed General Hancock to send Birney's division to Wright's left, when with Mott's division (now there) he will press forward at once between Wright and Burnside and endeavor to rectify our lines. This will leave our right as it now is.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: From what Comstock reports of the change of position of Burnside and of his (Comstock's) interview with Wright I have concluded not to move Birney, as with Mott there Wright ought to make a complete connection with Burnside, and it is better to have some force here available for contingencies.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Warren having made progress and taken some prisoners indicates the enemy were shaky. I have ordered him to attack at once. This will probably relieve Barlow and may assist Wright's and Burnside's attack latter.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—3 p. m.

[General A. A. HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: Three prisoners taken this a. m. (say 10) on the skirmish line of Ewell, somewhere in front of the Sixth Corps, where the divisions of Rodes and Johnson unite, say that their line there is very strong by fortifications which cannot be seen, and that this a. m., before they were sent out on the skirmish line, a part of A. P. Hill's at least was in reserve behind them. They are from Twelfth Georgia (Rodes' division), Forty-fourth Georgia (Rodes' division), Fifth Virginia (Stonewall Brigade), and upon divining the reasons of my questions would answer no more.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—7.30 a. m.

The ambulance train that went to Fredericksburg with the wounded having returned, a train of empty wagons will be immediately organized, under the direction of the chief quartermaster and medical director, for the purpose of conveying to that place the wounded men with the army. Two days' rations will be supplied the wounded by the chief commissary of this army. Every exertion will be made to get the train started as soon as possible. Surg. R. W. Pease, U. S. Volunteers, medical director Cavalry Corps, is placed in charge of the wounded, assisted by Asst. Surg. C. F. Haynes, Artillery Reserve, who is detailed for that purpose. Corps commanders will detail the proper number of medical officers and attendants for the wounded of their corps.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—10 a. m.

All trains with the troops and batteries in reserve belonging to corps, now parked on our right, will at once be moved toward our left.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

SIR: The commanding general desires to have the accompanying order published to the troops immediately. The order issued already about allowing no cheering will be observed. The number sent allows a copy for corps, division, and brigade headquarters.

Very respectfully,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Hancock and Wright.)

[Inclosure.]

GENERAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—10 a. m.

Intelligence has been received officially that Major-General Butler at Petersburg has whipped the enemy badly, and is advancing on Richmond; that General Sherman has whipped the enemy at Tunnel Hill and Dalton; Johnston retreating and leaving his dead and wounded in our hands.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Washington, D. C. May 10, 1864.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army:

SIR: At about 9 o'clock this morning I received a letter from General Halleck, chief of staff, stating that the Secretary of War directed that I should have a pontoon bridge laid on the Rappahannock opposite Fredericksburg as early as practicable, calling on the Quartermaster's Department for the transportation required, and retaining the balance of the bridges and men here, subject to the orders of General Meade, and further ordering that I should report the progress in the execution of these orders to the Adjutant-General.

That progress is thus far as follows: In fifteen minutes after the receipt of the order I had placed in General Rucker's hands a schedule of the transportation required, asking that it might be furnished as early as practicable, and the pontoon-rafts, with the bridge proper, for towing will be ready before 1 p. m., or within one hour. The wagons and trucks are ready to be sent to the quartermaster as soon as notice is received from him that he is ready, and if the teams, barges, and steamers are ready in time, there appears nothing to prevent their being loaded this afternoon and reaching Aquia Creek before midnight; and on being loaded up there, if the road is clear, I shall expect the bridge to reach the Rappahannock and be laid ready for use by to-morrow evening.

I would state in this connection, for the consideration of the Department, that I am holding steamers and barges ready to transport bridging and other important material with the battalion of the Fifteenth New York Engineers at any moment an order is received from General Meade. This battalion consists of but four companies and some extra recruits. One of the two captains of any experience is now with 75 men at Rappahannock Station, where he had laid a bridge for General Burnside, and he writes me for orders, as he states he received none from General Burnside on leaving. The only other captain with the regiment of experience with pontoons I propose to send with 75 of his men to Fredericksburg.

But from the large amount of bridge (over 2,000 feet) and other material ready to be moved here the services of both these captains and most of their men seem to be indispensable. I propose, therefore, unless otherwise directed from your office, to recall these captains, the former as soon as my messenger returns from you and the latter as soon as his bridge shall be laid, with the bulk of their men,

giving each directions to leave the usual bridge guard of pontoniers (some 15 to 18 men, with non-commissioned officers) that suffices for the ordinary care and repair of bridges laid somewhat permanently.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—12.20 p. m.—While the above letter was being copied I received information from General Rucker that the teams I had asked for had been ordered to this camp, and that the water transportation was ready at the Sixth-street wharf, from which I shall hope that the bridge will reach Aquia Creek fully as early as stated.

Very truly,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 10, 1864—6.40 a. m.

[General HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: I inclose you a report* of Colonel McKeen in reference to the bridge, &c. Colonel Morgan has not yet returned from his reconnaissance. I find from the proprietor here that on the other side there is a flat of bottom timber (the enemy are now in and fortifying) with rifle-pits on one side of the road, after it passes through the wood and runs to the Block house. There is an open field to that place. On an eminence commanding the bridge on the other side of the road there is the small pine of the country. I am anxious to meet your views, but I desire to make an explanation as to the causes of the delay. Now, if it is a positive order to make the crossing there, my troops will do it as well as any. I think it would be better, however, if we were all on one side of the stream. The country on which I stand is excellent ground for fighting on should I be attacked here.

Your obedient servant,

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 10, 1864—7 a. m.

[General A. A. HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: From a high tree on my front the enemy's position can be seen with a glass. They are busily engaged in throwing up works against me, and the infantry are packing rails for their line. The ground beyond the river is considerably open, with meadow land to the right. Farther to the right the river is intercepted by the tall timber on this side. I think this point was the original end of their line, for the line of their batteries appears to be facing the other way.

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

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*Not found.

SIGNAL STATION,
May 10, 1864—7.30 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

From a tree-top near the bridge I observed a short section of a line of breast-works, filled with enemy's infantry. The line is apparently perpendicular to the road on which your headquarters now are—the road leading to the bridge and to the right of it.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

You will immediately transfer two divisions of your corps to General Warren's position, and make arrangements, in conjunction with the Fifth Corps, to make a vigorous attack on the enemy's line punctually at 5 p. m. General Warren's instructions are herewith sent to you.* The remaining divisions will be so disposed as to keep up your present threatening attitude on the enemy's left, but so that it can be withdrawn promptly to your support, if necessary.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The opportunity for attack immediately is reported to be so favorable by General Warren that he is ordered to attack at once, and Gibbon is directed to co-operate with him. Wright is ordered to be ready to attack at once, if necessary, or to send support to Warren in an emergency. As soon as Barlow is secure, let Birney return.

By command:

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—4 p. m.

[General HANCOCK:]

I have ordered Warren to attack at once, and use Gibbon. Send Birney back if you don't want him, or, if not too late, attack with Birney and Barlow. Let me know at once what you do, and hurry Birney back as soon as possible if not wanted.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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*See Meade to Warren, 10 a. m., p. 604.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding requests me to say that if the enemy is quiet before Barlow, you can use such part of his division in the attack as in your judgment it is advisable, or the whole of it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General Wright has just captured 12 guns and 2,000 prisoners in the enemy's intrenchments. This will be made known to the troops.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

W. G. MITCHELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864.

Col. H. L. BROWN,
145th Pennsylvania Volunteers:

COLONEL: The general commanding the division directs me to say that you will assume command of the Third Brigade, Col. P. Frank, Fifty-second New York Volunteers, commanding, having been relieved and placed under arrest. You will report to the general commanding the division with the least possible delay.

I am, sir, very respectfullly, your obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION,
May 10, 1864.

Maj. J. HANCOCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: My scout has just returned, and reports that he went about three-fourths of a mile to the front up the creek, and discovered a marsh and creek running nearly parallel to the road on which we are (the road which we seized yesterday). The swamp is impracticable. The enemy are erecting works on the other side as far up as he went. One man was killed by the enemy in the stream.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN R. BROOKE,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you will send to the point on the road designated by Lieutenant Driver, to

protect the march of a brigade moving up the river, three regiments and a section of artillery, sending a staff officer with them to know their position after arriving.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—7 a. m.

[General MOTT:]

GENERAL: While in your present position you will be under the direction of Brigadier-General Wright, commanding Sixth Corps. I wish you would push out reconnoitering parties in all directions and obtain all possible information of the country and the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General MOTT, *Commanding Division:*

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Burnside reports that he is at the crossing of the Ny, 14 miles from Spotsylvania Court-House. The map is erroneous. A man living in this vicinity states that it is but a mile from where you are to General Burnside. This, however, may be erroneous. He states that Gayle's farm, on the east bank of the Ny, extends nearly from General Burnside up to where you are. The major-general commanding wishes you to establish connection with Burnside and Wright.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: Colonel Campbell, commanding regiments on your right, reports that the enemy are throwing up rifle-pits in front of his skirmish line and yours. General Wright thinks it is intended only as a show for the purpose of detaining us, and wishes you to take such measures as will determine at once the position and force in your front. Report result as promptly as possible.

By order of Brigadier-General Wright:

M. T. MCMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—12.50 p. m. (Received 2 p. m.)

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: The order sent to you last night to move to the sound of General Burnside's guns is herewith rescinded. If General Burn-

side should be pressed before 5 p. m., it is believed the most efficient aid you can render him is to attack vigorously where you are. You can send him, in case of urgent request, a portion of your force, but the general effect of your movement on the whole line will be greater where you are than in any change of position requiring time to execute.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864. (Received 2 p. m.)

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

Captain Mendell, Engineers, will report to you and aid you in selecting the point of attack to be made at 5 p. m. He will also remain with you until it is over, and will also express to you verbally my views as to the general dispositions you should make. Attack promptly and vigorously at the appointed hour.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
May 10, 1864—2.05 p. m.

General WRIGHT:

GENERAL: I was ordered to connect with General Burnside, on my left. My line of pickets is so extended that my troops for assault will not be more than 1,200 to 1,500 men, so that I am very weak. To call in the pickets on my left will take all the time, if not more than 5 p. m. Shall I send for them?

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Commanding Fourth Division, Second Army Corps:

I regret that your skirmish line is so extended, but if you cannot withdraw a part of the left in full time, you will not attempt to do so, but advance the whole at 5 p. m., as previously ordered, following it at the proper moment by your column of attack, made as strong as your numbers will permit. Use your artillery freely whenever there is a chance, as it serves to inspirit our men and demoralize the enemy, even if it does not hurt them much. I think you can enfilade their line with it. I rely much on the effect of your attack.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL BRIGADE, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Alsop's, May 10, 1864. (Received 5.30 p. m.)

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL MOTT:

SIR: By direction of Major-General Burnside, I am directed to report to you that I am stationed at this point with a part of my

brigade in order to guard the road and trains. The general directs me to say that my force is to be used in an emergency. My strength at this point is 2,260 effective men.

Respectfully,

E. G. MARSHALL,
Colonel 14th N. Y. Arty., Comdg. Prov. Brig., 9th A. C.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—7 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

When I returned last night I found that my picket-line, contrary to my positive order, came back again nearly to the position it held before in front of Crawford's division, and the firing we heard was caused by the enemy restoring theirs. I believe, as it was reported the command "forward guide center" was distinctly heard. Some officer, I don't know who, said he saw the enemy when he was on the advanced position moving regiments to the east, but the statement is too confused to make much of. I had intended to thoroughly reconnoiter the enemy's position in person at daylight but this falling back prevented me. I have again ordered an advance.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I am pushing forward as promptly as possible. My left, which advanced first, is across the Alsop road. The enemy are intrenching in front of my left, and occupy rifle-pits in front of my center. I will determine very soon in what force.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

General Hancock has been ordered to throw out two divisions of his corps on your right, with which and your corps an attack on the enemy in your front will be made at 5 p. m. this day. You will accordingly make all necessary dispositions. Major-General Hancock will by virtue of seniority have the command of the combined operations.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 10, 1864—3.45 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

General Wright is directed to attack at once. Mott also.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NEAR PINEY BRANCH CHURCH, *May* 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: By order of General Meade, I sent a portion of Captain McDonald's pontoon train to Fredericksburg to-day, to be used there in bridging the river. Captain McDonald has still left with him seven boats equal to 160 feet of bridging. I sent no troops from his battalion.

Very respectfully,

I. SPAULDING,
Lieutenant-Colonel 50th New York Vol. Engineers.

CAMP OF WAGON TRAIN,
Fredericksburg and Orange Court-House Plank Road, Between Silver's and Miller's, May 10, 1864.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, FIFTH CORPS:

SIR: Please report to the general that I am here with the main train of the corps (including pontoon train) and in company with trains of Second and Sixth Corps, Artillery Reserve, and general headquarters, awaiting orders to move from General Ingalls. I suppose Lieutenant Howden has kept you posted as to the train under his charge at the front. Please let me know by bearer the exact point where you are at present, and any expected movement. Any information as to what has happened since Saturday with the troops would also be acceptable.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. OWEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864.

When the order* with the account of our successes under Butler, Sherman, &c., is read to the troops they will be cautioned not to cheer, or to evince any boisterous demonstrations by which the enemy might be advised of it. Division commanders will be particular in having this order carried out.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 10, 1864—9 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

Push out whenever you think you can make a lodgment in an advanced position. Communicate the same to General Cutler on your right. It is important to develop the whereabouts of the enemy very soon. I am going to our extreme right.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

* See order headquarters Army of the Potomac, May 10, 1864, 10 a. m., p. 598.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 10, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I have sent in a line of about 800 men and drove the enemy some distance. The enemy developed artillery and heavy body of infantry.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 10, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: My front line (skirmishers) have and hold the pits beyond the orchard, dug by us last night. They are well supported by the whole Twelfth Infantry. The troops on my right should gain more ground to the front to stop an enfilade fire which I now get from the right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General.

IN THE FIELD. *Tuesday, May* 10, 1864.
(Received 8.30 a. m.)

[Major-General WARREN:]

GENERAL: My line is steadily advancing and as you desire. The almost impenetrable woods on the left render the movement slow on that part of the line. I have a double line of skirmishers and the line well supported. I will advance the single rank. I will communicate at once any information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded.

General Cutler's line is keeping up connection with General Crawford. The enemy throws shells at the advancing line from guns on our left. I will inform you as fast as anything develops.

G. K. WARREN.

IN THE FIELD. *May* 10, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General [WARREN]:

My right is now within grasp of the enemy's works. The left is pushing through the woods, steadily driving back the enemy's skirmishers. Anderson's brigade, of Field's division, of Longstreet, is in my front. As soon as my line is connected and well up I shall feel strongly for the enemy.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 10, 1864—10 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

Push the enemy back to his breast-works, and form your line close to it, but don't assault until we get the others up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 10, 1864—12 m.

Generals CRAWFORD and CUTLER:

It is very desirable to ascertain where the enemy's main line of battle is. I want them well pressed to drive back his covering force if it can be done. I would not, however, advance a stronger line than a single rank would make, for I think that will do it. Hold all you get.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 10, 1864—1.45 p. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: My line has fought its way to within range of the enemy's intrenchments. We are so close that the troops cannot stand up without drawing a volley from the enemy. I will hold the crest of the ridge I now occupy as long as it can be done. Colonel Carroll is now on my left with a brigade. Our troops suffer in their present position severely.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 10, 1864—9 a. m.

Colonel McCOY:

COLONEL: Push steadily forward, have the line formed as close to the enemy's breast-works as possible. You are all right I think, and we are doing well on the left. Be very careful to support the line well, so as to establish it near the enemy without any falling back. Strengthen the skirmishers if necessary. We shall assault probably. Anderson's brigade, of Field's division, is in my front. Communicate with me.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 10, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The left of my picket-line has been moving forward since soon after daylight, and the reconnoitering force sent out yesterday has crossed the Alsop road 200 or 300 yards and reports a line of battle in its front—strength not stated. I have sent two regiments to its support, with orders for it to feel the line. My picket-line is all ad-

vancing, pivoting on the right. I have just heard from one of the pickets in front of my center that enemy was moving back about 3 a. m. I shall know more presently.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—7 a. m.

Brigadier-General WRIGHT:

General Mott takes position on your left. Will be under your direction while there. He is, however, ordered, in the event of hearing heavy firing at Burnside's, to proceed at once to his relief.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 10, 1864.

General MOTT:

You will please take command of the two regiments from this corps under Colonel Campbell, now connecting with your right, and will push forward your skirmishers until you develop what there is in front. Act as promptly as possible.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—7.20 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The two regiments sent out on reconnaissance yesterday have connected with the division of the Second Corps on my left. Nothing yet developed in front. The pickets still advancing.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—8.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The enemy are reported throwing up rifle-pits in front of my left (General Mott), and my skirmishers on the center have come upon rifle-pits occupied. I have given orders to take immediate measures to determine in what force those intrenchments are held. A battery of probably two guns opened on us a few minutes since in front of my center. It fired but a few shots; I answered with artillery.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—8.55 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Mott reports that a staff officer of General Burnside has reported to him that General Burnside is now about 3½ miles to the left and rear of General Mott's position.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

HEADQUARTERS BRIGADIER-GENERAL WRIGHT,
May 10, 1864—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

Brigadier-General Wright has thrown forward his left 1½ miles, finding little resistance. His right meets more opposition; he is trying to throw it forward. General Wright does not think the enemy is in great strength in front of him.

Very respectfully,

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General WRIGHT:

You will make an attack on your front promptly at 5 p. m., using General Mott's division for this purpose. Generals Warren and Hancock will attack at the same time.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864.

An attack in force will be made at 5 p. m. to-day. The general commanding the corps desires that division commanders will carefully examine the ground over which they are to advance, with a view to the practicability of the attack on their respective fronts, and will report in person at these headquarters when such examination has been completed.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I am disposing my column for attack, and expect to be in position by 5 p. m. ready for advance. As this column goes far to the front,

before moving to the attack, I shall not have many troops to send to Warren and still hold my line. He shall have all I can spare, if he needs them.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 10, 1864—1.15 a. m.

This division will be held in readiness to move forward at day light in conjunction with other troops of the corps and army.

By command of Brigadier-General Russell:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
In the Field, May 10, 1864—1.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your note of 10.30 last evening just received. A division of Hancock's corps has been ordered to take position to-night between you and the present left of General Meade's army. If you should need its aid make no hesitation in ordering it to your assistance. If you can hold your position at Mr. Gayle's do so; if you ascertain that you cannot hold it quietly withdraw to the head of the column near Alsop's.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 10, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

A general attack will be made on the enemy at 5 p. m. to-day. Reconnoiter the enemy's position in the mean time, and if you have any possible chance of attacking their right do it with vigor and with all the force you can bring to bear. Do not neglect to make all the show you can as the best co-operative effort.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

MAY 10, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

A division of troops was sent from here last evening to interpose between what was the left of Meade's position and yours. They are now working up toward you, and will I think soon connect.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Only so much of General Ferrero's division will be sent as convoy to our empty wagons ordered to Belle Plain as the quartermaster in charge may deem sufficient. The remainder will be continued on, as at present, duty of guarding roads to our rear and on which our trains move. General Ferrero has been so instructed. This will enable you to use your Provisional Brigade if you need it.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Alsop's House, May 10, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: By concentrating the three divisions of the corps at Gayle's I can make a very heavy attack upon the right flank of the enemy, or I can have the two divisions at Gayle's make a demonstration, and put the other division in rear of Mott's division, who is on the left of Wright's corps. I write this because I do not know if you would care to run the risk of allowing the enemy to break through Mott's on the road from Alsop's to Spotsylvania. Which do you think had best be done? I have directed the bearer to proceed with greatest possible haste and he will bring your answer.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 10, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch of 2.15 p. m. just received. It will now be too late to bring up your third division. I will have to leave it to your judgment whether it will be best to attack with your two divisions as they are, or whether one of them should be sent to Mott. As the attack is to be general, however, I incline to the opinion you will be secure in attacking as you are. I want the attack promptly made in one or other of the modes proposed.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
May 10, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

A survey of the positions occupied by the different corps made to-day shows your corps entirely isolated and without support. You

must get up at once so as to connect on your right with Wright's command. To do this, bring up your third division, if it is not already up, and place it to the right of the two now at Gayle's.

Yours, &c.,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Ny River, May 10, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

The road running from our front toward Spotsylvania Court-House is the one the rebels first take. Two regiments, and others in motion, are reported by pickets on my right front moving from the direction of the Court-House to the right, apparently toward Meade's left.

O. B. W[ILLCOX].

In haste.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Alsop's House, May 10, 1864.

General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I was mistaken in reference to the road from this main road to your place to Spotsylvania Court-House. There is no such road. I am in communication with General Mott, who is about 2 miles in front of us, and his pickets extend over to the Second Michigan. It is ordered that we attack at 5 o'clock this p. m. Please get everything in readiness for the move, and if General Grant will allow it I will send General Potter's division to you instead of supporting Mott. At all events, get everything in readiness for a move on the right flank of the enemy and await orders.

Very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Ny River May 10, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Colonel Morrison, who is constantly on the lookout, does not think that any very large bodies of the enemy have passed up from left to right to-day; although some light columns have moved to the right, the general drift seems to be away from Meade's army. There certainly is an immense number of stragglers. The enemy's pickets have pushed their way up boldly between Colonel Humphrey's extreme right and General Meade's left. I fear that the officer who came to ascertain the route for Mott's division was captured. I have not yet heard from Mott. As soon as Humphrey has extended his line, I will report again.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Alsop's House, May 10, 1864.

General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am very much gratified with the management of your command and desire to express my thanks for the service already performed. I sincerely hope the wound of General Stevenson may not prove fatal. It is reported that the main road from Spotsylvania Court-House to Fredericksburg crosses the road to your position and is only lightly blockaded. If such is the case, it is very necessary a strict watch should be kept up on that road. I will send you one or two regiments at once.

Very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Ny River, May 10, 1864—9 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: It is with deep sorrow I have to report that the gallant commander of your Second Division, General Stevenson, is killed. He was, at his headquarters in front, hit by some chance shot. Colonel Leasure takes his command. Will send his body to you. Please make immediate arrangements, if possible, to forward it to Aquia Creek.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Alsop's, May 10, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am pained beyond measure to hear of the death of General Stevenson. We will send for his body at once. Please consider well the warning in the note of General Grant, and unless you are pretty certain of connecting and maintaining your connection with Second Corps, you had better quietly fall back to the forks of the main road to Fredericksburg with this road and report your position. Please return the original of the note of General Grant sent you by Captain Pike.

Very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—4 p. m.

General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

The general commanding directs that you open with your artillery promptly at 5 o'clock this p. m., and have your command ready to

follow up the effect at once. General Potter is now on his way to join you, and the general commanding leaves immediately for your headquarters.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. R. LARNED,

Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NY RIVER, *May* [10], 1864—6.30 p. m.

[General BURNSIDE:]

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 4.20 p. m. received. No attack by the enemy since 12 m. We hold all the ground. The enemy's lines are in rear of a strip of woods. He looks like throwing up some slight breast-works, and there are some indications of planting batteries, but I think it is to defend the road along which their trains have been moving all day. We have thrown up fence-rail breast-works along the whole line, and will do heavier work to-night.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX.

HEADQUARTERS,

Ny River, May 10, 1864—7.15 [p. m.].

Major-General BURNSIDE:

All quiet. Well intrenched. Feel perfectly easy.

O. B. WILLCOX.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,

Ny River, near Gayle's House, May 10, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: Your note with reference to holding this position is received. If Meade holds his own he will occupy the enemy too much to enable them to mass on me. I think I can hold the position and am willing to take proper risks. The least attempt to withdraw would be actively followed up by the enemy and enable him to mass everything here suddenly on Meade's left.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,

May 10, 1864.

General WILLCOX,

Commanding Third Division:

The commanding general directs that you inform your entire command that official information has been received that General Butler has been entirely successful, and is now advancing between Petersburg and Richmond, and is sanguine of complete success. That General Sherman has whipped the enemy and occupies Tunnel Hill

and Dalton. He directs also that this shall be given at once, and desires that there be no cheering by the men. This rule has been observed in the other corps.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to other division commanders.)

HDQRS. DETACHMENT NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Ny River, May 10, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WELD,
Comdg. First Brigade, First Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you order the Fourth and Tenth Regulars to report to Colonel Humphrey, on the right, to support Roemer's battery, and to keep open communication with General Meade's army.

Respectfully,

W. V. RICHARDS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Alsop's House, May 10, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Colonel GRIFFIN:

COLONEL: Please direct Colonel Morrison to scout out well on the plank road, and from it to the right, also down the Telegraph road, in order to give timely notice of any approach of the enemy, and report to these headquarters the result.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 10, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER AT ALRICH'S:

The enemy is moving in force on our right. Is supposed to be advancing rapidly. Prepare to protect trains, and attack him if he comes within your reach.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I turned the enemy's right and got into their rear. Did not meet sufficient of cavalry to stop me. Destroyed from 8 to 10 miles of Orange railroad, 2 locomotives, 3 trains, and a very large amount of supplies. The enemy were making a depot of supplies at Beaver

Dam. Since I got into their rear there has been great excitement among the inhabitants and with the army. The citizens report that Lee is beaten. Their cavalry has attempted to annoy my rear and flank, but have been run off. I expect to fight their cavalry south of South Anna River. I have no forage. Started with half rations for one day, and have found none yet. Have recaptured 500 of our men, 2 colonels.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 10, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Officer Commanding Dismounted Cavalry
Detailed to escort train with wounded:

SIR: Should this communication meet you on your way back to the army, the commanding general directs that you escort to Fredericksburg with your command the train with wounded, under charge of Surg. R. W. Pease; and should you be still at Fredericksburg, that you escort to the army the first return train. I am further directed to inquire why you did not escort back the train of empty ambulances that returned last evening.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
May 10, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General SLOUGH:

Be prepared at 10 o'clock this evening to go in a special boat that will leave here at that hour to go to Fredericksburg to take command of the forces in that city, guard the hospitals, and perform the duties of military governor there.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
May 10, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR:

The Secretary's order detaching General Slough to go to Belle Plain and Fredericksburg is suspended, and General Abercrombie will go early in the morning. The troops not required to defend stores and wounded will be sent to General Meade as soon as possible. General A. will be in telegraphic communication with Washington for instructions.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
Washington, D. C., May 10, 1864—11.30 p. m.

General ABERCROMBIE,
Near Fort Ward:

The Secretary wishes you to leave for Belle Plain as soon as possible in the morning. The transports will leave Alexandria about 10 a. m. to-morrow, and you had better be there to accompany the troops. Such of the troops sent, and to be sent to you, as are not required for the protection of stores and care for the wounded are to be sent to General Grant. Telegraphic communication with Belle Plain will be opened to-morrow, when you will please report to General Halleck for further instructions.

Very truly, yours,

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., May 10, 1864.

Commander F. A. PARKER,
Commanding Potomac Flotilla:

General Halleck says that 1,500 cavalry have gone to Fredericksburg, and the senior officer there can be called upon to use his discretion. Hooker ought to move up only in the daytime with boats ahead. It is not a necessity to call for risk to the lives of officers and men. It is hardly known here what the senior officer at Fredericksburg will do after giving orders to Hooker. I would go and see him, and act in your discretion after consulting with him. Perhaps by protecting the banks of the Rappahannock, transports might go up. This is for you to examine into and advise. A telegraphic cable is to cross at Mathias Point, thence to Potomac Creek or Belle Plain.

G. V. FOX.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
May 10, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Via Fort Monroe:

Your dispatch of yesterday* stating the operations under your command has just been received, and I have sent it to the Capitol to be read there. I congratulate you and your gallant command upon the skill, energy, and success of your operations. We have nothing direct from the Army of the Potomac later than my telegram of yesterday, but reports say that Lee is retreating and Grant pursuing with his whole army. Dispatches from General Sherman state that he has been engaged for the last two days with Johnston's army, and there is reason to hope for a brilliant victory in that quarter. General Kautz was confirmed as brigadier on Saturday, and I am rejoiced he is so well vindicating the merit of the appointment. His commission will be forwarded immediately.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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*See p. 10.

HEADQUARTERS TURNER'S DIVISION,
On Railroad, May 10, 1864—2 a. m.

[General BUTLER:]

GENERAL: A contraband just from Richmond says Grant whipped Lee three times. Longstreet killed. Expect us to take Richmond this time. Expect 10,000 men from Richmond to Petersburg. This man says rebels have a rifle-pit from James River at Drewry's Bluff to Half-Way Station on Petersburg railroad, 2 miles from Chester Station. Got four brigades at Drewry's. Hagood's brigade fighting us day before yesterday and Pickett's; Beauregard said to be at Petersburg. Says most of the enemy are with Lee on the Rapidan.

I inclose this dispatch just received from General Foster; he is with General Terry. I have ordered the balance of the brigade left with West to go back there.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

[MAY 10, 1864.—For Gillmore to Butler, see p. 36.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 10, 1864—9.25 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Time that might be of great value to us can be saved by retiring from the line of Swift Creek just as we lie.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Junction of old and new pikes, near railroad,
May 10, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: Your dispatches by bearer are received. General Terry is at the same place, on the new pike next to the railroad. The fighting there has been severe. General Turner received a flag of truce from the enemy just as he was retiring. I have ordered him to detain them, subject to your instructions. General Turner's brigade is at this junction, and will not move until I hear again from General Terry. I inclose you the papers concerning flag of truce and await your orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 10, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: I am now at the junction of pike and the direct road to Chester Station. General Terry has pushed the enemy up the pike, and holds the ground the enemy held this morning. Colonel

Howell is at Howlett's house, beyond Ware Bottom Church, on James River, and is all right. General Turner's brigade is at the junction of new and old pikes, near the railroad, and will remain there until further orders. Colonel Howell ought to hold his ground if you expect to demonstrate on the right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 10, 1864.

General GILLMORE:

Will order Ames' brigade to relieve Wistar, and Turner to relieve Heckman, and as soon as Heckman and Wistar are relieved and get into position Generals Turner and Ames will retire.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:
Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH:

GENERALS: Brigadier-General Turner has been withdrawn. The Third New Hampshire Regiment, from the bridge, is here; my entire force is retiring and on the pike. General Ames took the old pike on the right, but General Smith's force is in General Ames' advance. The enemy are turning General Terry and should be attacked in flank.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS GENERAL AMES,
May 10, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE:

Generals Ames and Turner are moving up to relieve Heckman and Wistar. Do you wish them to await further orders before they commence to retire, or shall they commence the movement as soon as Heckman and Wistar are out of their way? Which brigade, Ames' or Turner's, do you wish to retire first, as the other must form the rear guard? Some word should be sent to Third New Hampshire, so that they know when to move. I will await your answer by my orderly.

R. S. FOSTER.

I think all the artillery and wagons should be sent back instanter, except one section with rear guard.

FOSTER.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 10, 1864—2 o'clock.

Major-General GILLMORE, *Commanding, &c.:*

By examination of prisoners taken from the enemy I learn that but two brigades left their intrenchments at Drewry's Bluff this morning, leaving nobody there. Barton's and Hunton's, or Grayson's [Gracie's], brigades are the ones.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE:

Your dispatch received. Let all the troops be ordered within the defenses to-night.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 10, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY, *Comdg. First Division:*

You will retire with your command to your old position within the intrenchments, ordering back such parts of Ames' division and the Eighteenth Corps as may have been sent out to your support. Leave no wounded, sick, or stragglers of either command behind, and retire slowly.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

Major-General Gillmore wishes you to bring all your troops within the defenses to-night, commencing immediately. You will leave your picket-line as it was and has been before we started yesterday morning. You will notify all detachments in your front—not of this command—of your withdrawal.

I am, general, very truly, &c.,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 10, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Col. J. B. HOWELL, *Commanding Brigade:*

COLONEL: Withdraw your force except a strong picket on the line you now occupy within the lines; the force on your left has been withdrawn.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
May 10, 1864.

General TURNER:

GENERAL: Major-General Gillmore desires you to send one regiment toward Brandon Bridge to take a position that will enable them to support (if necessary) the Third New Hampshire. Brandon Bridge is on Weitzel's extreme right and I think near 2 miles from his right flank. I think you can move the regiment to the right of your present position and Ames' and strike the road to Brandon Bridge without coming this way.

FOSTER.

MAY 10, 1864.

Colonel JACKSON:

I shall want some infantry ammunition to-day. How many wagons can you let me have?

Respectfully,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.

[Indorsement.]

Your own division supply train is expected to bring up ammunition and rations; there is no corps train. We can't find an ordnance officer, but the general has written to Colonel Shaffer. I think you ought to send your wagons back for ammunition.

Respectfully,

R. H. JACKSON,
Assistant Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—8 a. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

Mordecai has ammunition here. If you have rations for to-day and to-morrow it will probably be enough; if not, send back for more.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—12.55 p. m.

General TURNER:

I am ordered to make dispositions to retire slowly within old intrenchments. I desire you to see that no wounded or stragglers are left behind from your command, and that dispositions to carry out this order are put in effect at once. I will be on the pike for an hour or so.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864—12 m.

General TURNER:

General Gillmore desires you to form two or more companies to march immediately in rear of your command (except the extreme rear guard) to force and bring up all stragglers from the entire command. Your command being the rear guard will be the last to pass.

FOSTER.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 10, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,
Comdg. Second Division, Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: Leave an escort with Colonel Paine until he brings it in himself. After Colonel Paine leaves for the front with his escort, withdraw the balance of your command by way of the old pike and enter the intrenchments.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col., and Asst. Insp. Gen., and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 10, 1864.

General TURNER.
Comdg. Second Div., Tenth Army Corps:

General Butler telegraphs to hurry up the movement. Start the Second Division as soon as possible. It occupies the center of the column, but we will not wait to arrange positions here.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 10, 1864.

General GILLMORE:

Your dispatch of 2.05 p. m. just received. I am already in motion by my right flank. It is by far my best road and I will thus not be in the way of the pike. I am forming line of battle in a favorable position while I retire my front line. This will be my last line. I have two roads to retire on. There are many ammunition wagons on my right and artillery which I am sending in in advance of ours. It will not be too late to return by pike if you wish it.

Respectfully,

JNO. W. TURNER.

[Indorsement.]

All right.

By order of General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 10, 1864—11.13 a. m.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I am directed to report how the process of relieving the troops here is going on. I relieved General Wistar about half an hour ago. General Turner has relieved General Heckman. I have sent two of my regiments to the Junction in obedience to orders from General Gillmore. I was ordered to await further orders. As General Terry sends word he is engaged with the enemy, and as the troops (General Turner's, who bring up the rear) here are in position, I will withdraw my whole command to go to General Terry.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS.
In the Field, May 10, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Col. J. B. HOWELL,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: Withdraw your force except a strong picket on the line you now occupy within the lines. The force on your left has been withdrawn.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
May 10, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that yesterday evening I requested Major-General Gillmore to relieve General Heckman's brigade, which has been fighting three days out of the four that we have been here, by a brigade of General Turner's division, stating at the time that I had no troops not actually in the presence of the enemy, and that I was anxious to give General Heckman a chance to make some coffee for his men, which they could not do on the front. This request was denied. Later in the evening, upon being informed by General Gillmore that our rear was threatened by infantry and cavalry, I requested General Gillmore to give me one regiment to guard the roads leading to the rear of my lines, stating at the time that I had no regiment that I could safely withdraw from my front for this duty. Still later in the night, at a time when I thought General Burnham was being driven back, and knowing that the safety of our command depended in a great measure upon that position being held, to save time I sent direct to General Turner, asking him to give me two regiments to aid General Brooks to maintain that position. I have, therefore, now respectfully to

request that in accordance with the usages of military services, that General Heckman's brigade be relieved at once by troops that have not been sent to the front.

Very respectfully,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 10, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department of Virginia, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter directed to General Gillmore and myself, and to reply to it, only so far as I myself am personally concerned. Just after you had left yesterday, General Gillmore proposed this plan, and it seemed to me to be one worthy of your consideration, as having a tendency to save loss of life to a certain extent, and to more effectually cut the enemy's communication, than any infantry force on this side of the river could do. I understood you yesterday positively to say that General Kautz was going south on the railroad which he had already cut. This was in my mind a leading idea in giving to this plan the weight which I did. The objections to it were, first, that it would have the semblance of a repulse here, and, secondly, that if we could force our way across the creek, we would gain valuable time over the other plan.

These considerations, which I knew would occur to you, were, therefore, unnecessary to mention. The suggestions were made so far as I was concerned merely to call your attention to a plan which seemed to me to possess merit. I am happy to state that General Gillmore's idea received the sanction of General Weitzel and Colonel Dutton. I have made this long explanation for peculiar and private reasons, and can only say in conclusion, that as I have never before been accused of infirmity of purpose, I shall not take the charge as one seriously affecting my military reputation. I had forgotten to mention that the letter was not drawn up or signed by me as a formal protest, but only in a semi-informal manner and in the quickest time of conveying to you the ideas which had been discussed by General Gillmore and myself. Pure consideration for the troops here and the cause in which we are engaged, it becomes my duty to you to express the opinion that the withdrawal from this point must be made in accordance with some well regulated plan published from headquarters of the army, and not according to the separate wishes and interests of corps commanders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

MAY 10, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have arrived here (City Point) with my entire command. Have burned the Stony Creek bridge, the Nottoway bridge, and Jarratt's Station. I have about 130 prisoners. Loss in my command about 30 killed and wounded. I want rations and forage as soon as I can get them.

A. V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, May 10, 1864.

General KAUTZ:

I am directed by the commanding general to order that you move your command to Bermuda Landing, and march to these headquarters as soon as you can. Transportation and rations have been ordered to you.

Respectfully,

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 10, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
City Point:

Report in person.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL SMITH'S SIGNAL STATION,
May 10, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain NORTON,
Chief Signal Officer:

The following message* has just been received from City Point: General Hinks has returned to City Point with his command. General Kautz arrived with his command overland from Portsmouth about 8 this a. m.

S. N. ROGERS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjt. Gen. U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

I presume that it will be needless for me to inform you that the article contained in the New York Herald, of the 6th instant, stating that immense amounts of public property were destroyed by fire in recent evacuation of Little Washington, &c., is absolutely false. No public property was abandoned or destroyed—that is, none of value. It is difficult to trace the firing of the buildings, but I hope yet to discover the incendiaries. All of the refugees are being cared for.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

* Not found.

[Indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
May 17, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Halleck, chief of staff.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, May 10, 1864.

Col. J. JOURDAN,
Comdg. Sub-District of Beaufort, N. C.:

COLONEL: Now that the pressure upon us appears to be over I wish to make as soon as possible some few changes in the disposition of the troops. I wish to get all the North Carolina troops to your district. The First Regiment of them has some 600 men in the eight companies (including the cavalry company), and they are drilled as artillerists. They will be effective I think if they are placed with you, where they imagine they are safe at all times from capture. Colonel McChesney will see that the families of his regiment are made comfortable, and when they get once settled he is perfectly confident that they will be as staunch as any men we have. The matter of Croatan Station will be attended to at once; the old station will no longer be kept up, and whatever force we keep near there will be attached to this sub-district.

As soon as possible I shall have a battery (light) of at least four pieces for you, and in exchange for the force sent you I shall probably wish you to send here only the companies of the Second Massachusetts and Fifth Rhode Island Artillery. The matter of the commander of Fort Macon will be a matter for after consideration. It is my opinion, however, that Colonel Frankle will come here, as he had better be with his own regiment. It is currently reported here that a few days since, when the rebels were in front of us here, an order was given at Newport Barracks to have everything ready to leave that place. I can hardly credit this report, for the commanding officer at that place could surely not have intended to leave without a fight. Captain Fuller is said, I think, to have made the statement, which perhaps it would be well to inquire into. Nothing indicates that a very stubborn resistance was made at Croatan. I hear of no one being killed or injured there, and the capture of the post seems to have been so easily made that none of the deserters who came in seem to know anything about it. However, we may learn something different in time. If you still think North Carolinians in the way and of no use, I shall order them to Norfolk. I think, however, that the presence of the other regiments will give them confidence, and that you will conclude that they are reliable.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DIST. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 15. } *New Berne, N. C., May* 10, 1864.

I. The First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers (excepting the two companies at Hatteras Inlet) will proceed immediately to Morehead

City, the commanding officer reporting on his arrival to Col. J. Jourdan, commanding Sub-District of Beaufort.

II. The companies of the Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery at Fort Macon and the company of that regiment at Morehead City will be relieved, under Colonel Jourdan's direction, by a sufficient number of companies of the First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers. After this is done, and the new garrisons have become familiar with their duties, the companies of the Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery mentioned will proceed to New Berne, N. C., on arrival the commanding officer will report to Brigadier-General Harland, commanding Sub-District of New Berne.

III. Col. Jones Frankle, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, is relieved from the command of the post of Fort Macon, and will proceed to New Berne, N. C., with the headquarters of his regiment, reporting on arrival to Brigadier-General Harland, commanding Sub-District of New Berne.

IV. Col. J. M. McChesney, First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the post of Fort Macon, vice Colonel Frankle, relieved.

V. Lieutenant-Colonel Stone, Third New York Artillery, is relieved from further duty in the Sub-District of Beaufort, and will report for duty to the commanding officer of his regiment, in the Sub-District of New Berne.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DES MOINES, IOWA, *May* 11, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The thanks of a grateful people are due to General Grant and his heroic army for their gallant conduct and splendid achievements, and to the War Department for the able and cordial support he has received at all times in his plans and movements against the enemy.

WM. STONE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, May 11, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

We have now ended the sixth day of very heavy fighting. The result to this time is much in our favor. But our losses have been heavy, as well as those of the enemy. We have lost to this time 11 general officers, killed, wounded, and missing, and probably 20,000 men. I think the loss of the enemy must be greater, we having taken over 4,000 prisoners in battle, while he has taken but few, except stragglers. I am now sending back to Belle Plain all my wagons for a fresh supply of provisions and ammunition, and propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer.

The arrival of re-enforcements here will be very encouraging to the men, and I hope they will be sent as fast as possible, and in as

great numbers. My object in having them sent to Belle Plain was to use them as an escort to our supply train. If it is more convenient to send them out by train to march from the railroad to Belle Plain or Fredericksburg send them so. I am satisfied the enemy are very shaky, and are only kept up to the mark by the greatest exertions on the part of their officers, and by keeping them intrenched in every position they take. Up to this time there is no indication of any portion of Lee's army being detached for the defense of Richmond.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, May 11, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Yours of 9.30 a. m. yesterday is received. Acting on your previous dispatches, I have sent about 3,000 men from here to General Butler. I hope to send to Belle Plain to-day from 3,000 to 4,000, and more as soon as they arrive. None of the Western militia, nor of the troops relieved by them in the West, have yet reached here. General Benham has promised to have the bridge at Fredericksburg completed by night. Your orders on this matter and in regard to supplies have been anticipated. Everything with Sherman looks well, but no general engagement yet. All dispatches received for you will be sent forward from War Department. Please keep me advised of your position and the condition of affairs, and we shall probably be able to anticipate most of your wants.

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 11, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Send back to Belle Plain every wagon that can be spared, retaining here only sufficient to move what ammunition and other stores that cannot be carried on the person. Two days of the present supply of rations should be unloaded to issue to the men, and ammunition enough to fill all the cartridge-boxes. These wagons can go back with a small escort, relying on re-enforcements expected to give them a strong escort back. All the wagons should start back with a heavy load, say from 2,500 to 3,500 pounds, the amount depending upon the strength of the team. I would advise also the sending back to Belle Plain all the Reserve Artillery. This, however, I leave to your own discretion. General Burnside will be instructed to send back as an escort to the wagons all his cavalry, and, if necessary, his division of colored troops.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va.,
May 11, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: As the trains remaining here will be small after the compliance with orders sending all empty wagons to Belle Plain, and as General Burnside sends his colored troops and cavalry with the empty wagons, each corps must furnish guards for its own train. You will please give directions accordingly. General Burnside has been notified that he will have his own train only to guard.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

Issue necessary orders. Corps commanders can learn from chief quartermaster where their trains are.

[G. G. M.]

MAY 11, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

The movement of the enemy may be explained by the position Burnside has assumed. Comstock is over with Burnside, and will not lose a chance to push the enemy. He has probably made such developments as to induce the enemy to give up his right, if it was weak.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 11, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Move three divisions of the Second Corps by the rear of the Fifth and Sixth Corps under cover of night so as to join the Ninth Corps in a vigorous assault on the enemy at 4 a. m. to-morrow. I will send one or two staff officers over to-night to stay with Burnside and impress him with the importance of a prompt and vigorous attack. Warren and Wright should hold their corps as close to the enemy as possible to take advantage of any diversion caused by this attack, and to push in if the opportunity presents itself. There is but little doubt in my mind but that the assault last evening would have proven entirely successful if it had commenced one hour earlier and had been heartily entered into by Mott's division and the Ninth Corps.

Respectfully,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 11, 1864—7.05 a. m.

Corps commanders will take immediate and active measures to replenish their supplies of ammunition, and they will bring as near

as practicable to their commands such portions of their ammunition trains as may be required to meet any ordinary contingency. They will also cause the proper officers to report the location to them of such wagons.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 11, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Corps commanders will ascertain what force is sufficient for holding securely their positions and what number of troops will then remain free for use in offensive movement or in extending the front of the army. It is of the utmost importance that there should be some available force for these purposes, and the commanding general desires that corps commanders will examine their positions carefully with these views and to determine what further works, if any, are necessary to reduce the number of men holding them to the lowest number possible. Major-General Burnside has approached to within a quarter of a mile of Spotsylvania Court-House with trifling opposition. Corps commanders will report what changes, if any, have taken place in their front and will keep their skirmishers well pressed against the enemy.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 11, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Two days' rations will at once be issued to the troops (one of them to include the day's salt meat now in the wagons), also 50 rounds of ammunition per man. All empty wagons will be sent with as little delay as practicable to Belle Plain, there to be loaded with their maximum capacity with supplies for the army. The chiefs of staff departments will immediately make the necessary arrangements to draw from Belle Plain such supplies for their respective departments as the wagons placed at their disposal will allow, and they will make their requisitions on the officer of the quartermaster's department at Belle Plain for transportation.

Three days' salt meat will be included among the stores to be provided by the subsistence department, and an officer of that department will be detached from each corps to procure supplies for his department. The chief quartermaster of this army is charged with the general direction of the transportation of supplies from Belle Plain to the army. The trains are to be escorted from Arich's to Belle Plain by Ferrero's division, and the cavalry of the Ninth Corps from Belle Plain to the army. The escort will be made up of reenforcements expected.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 11, 1864—10 a. m.

The wounded men now with this army will be sent to Fredericksburg under the direction of the chief quartermaster and medical director. A train for that purpose will be organized under the immediate charge of Asst. Surg. H. A. Du Bois, U. S. Army, of the Artillery Reserve, consisting of the empty wagons of this army as far as possible and of such spring wagons and ambulances as are absolutely needed for the transportation of serious cases that require that kind of vehicle. It is expected that all who can walk will be required to do so. If any cases can speedily return to the ranks to duty they should not be sent away. The train of each corps or command when ready will be reported to Assistant Surgeon Du Bois, at Silver's, on the Fredericksburg road. The train should leave this afternoon and information should be sent to Dr. Du Bois of the number of wounded that will probably be placed in his charge, and the hour they will be ready to be moved, that no unnecessary delay occur. A sufficient number of medical officers and attendants, medical and hospital supplies, and two days' rations will be sent. The ambulance train, officers, surgeons, and attendants will return as soon as possible, their services being required with the army.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 11, 1864.

Corps commanders are authorized to take advantage of the trains ordered to be sent to the rear to return to their respective States any regiments or independent companies whose term of service has expired, or will expire within a week from this date. Such regiments and companies will be ordered to report to the superintendent of the recruiting service, in the States to which they belong, for muster out and discharge. The term of service—three years—of a regiment or company, the Pennsylvania Reserves excepted, with respect to which organization a special decision has been given, will be reckoned from the date of muster into the service of the United States. In computing the term of service of a regiment, when the companies were mustered in at different dates, corps commanders are authorized to compute the term of service from an average date, but they will satisfy themselves in all cases as to the actual date of muster in of an organization before sending it home for discharge.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 11, 1864—10 a. m.

All trains with the troops and batteries in reserve belonging to corps now parked on our right, will at once be moved toward our left.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 11, 1864.

The troops of the Ninth Corps recently employed in guarding the general trains of this army having been detached for other service, corps and other independent commanders will at once detail a small detachment from their respective commands to serve as guards for their trains, the location of which will be ascertained from the chief quartermaster of the army. As the trains have been greatly reduced by sending to the rear empty wagons, a very small guard only will be necessary.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 11, 1864.

Captain TAYLOR:

The enemy have just formed in line of battle facing this way. The line stretches across the whole open space in our front.

I. THICKSTUN.

MAY 11, 1864.

Captain TAYLOR:

The line is moving to our left.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

MAY 11, 1864—9.35 a. m.

Captain TAYLOR:

The line has all turned to our left and disappeared in woods. The section of artillery last reported has just gone. The skirmish line, which had constructed small rifle-pits, remains. Their commencing to build these rifle-pits was first reported by me as breast-works erroneously.

THICKSTUN.

RIGHT FLANK SIGNAL STATION,
May 11, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

I made an observation from a high tree in advance of our extreme right near the Po River. The enemy has a strong picket-line at the brow of the hill back of the point at which General Barlow crossed day before yesterday, and has one or two pieces of artillery in rear of the pickets about 100 yards, but is moving them, apparently to select position. The infantry force there is apparently not more than a small brigade, but is concealed by woods. An hour ago a force of about three regiments moved back in the woods by a road toward their right, and were then lost sight of. There is still a force

of infantry at that point, as above stated. The pieces of artillery they have cover the point at which our forces crossed day before yesterday.

CHARLES L. DAVIS,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

MAY 11, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Captain FISHER:

The enemy are throwing up protections for two guns on the position indicated in my dispatch of 9.25 this a. m. They can also be seen carrying materials for a work into the woods out of reach of our glasses. Two guns can now be seen.

HILL,
Captain and Signal Officer.

MAY 11, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain TAYLOR:

The guns that were in position opposite this point have disappeared.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C., May 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, Fredericksburg, Va.:

GENERAL: You will aid the Quartermaster's Department in every way you can by establishing floating wharves at Belle Plain with any surplus pontoons you may have, using barges for the wharfheads.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BELLE PLAIN, *May 11*, 1864—10 a. m.

Capt. CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that I arrived here this morning at 4.30 o'clock, and immediately ran the steamer and barges alongside of the dock, when I received the following order:

MAY 11, 1864.

Capt. T. LUBEY:

CAPTAIN: The pontoon bridge will not be unloaded until after 100 teams are loaded with forage and sent to the front.

By command of General Ingalls:

J. E. JONES,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

As it will take all day to-day and to-morrow to load up 100 teams, I am now building a bridge from the shore, to enable me to run the barges alongside to unload; but I will have to build 300 feet from the shore before I come to water deep enough to float the barges. The

steamer cannot come up at all, and I will have to transfer the mules to the barges. By this means I hope to unload all. I will push everything with all possible dispatch. The roads are blocked up with sick and wounded.

Respectfully, yours,

TIMOTHY LUBEY,
Captain, Fifteenth New York Volunteer Engineers.

HDQRS. TWENTY-SECOND NEW YORK CAVALRY,
Fredericksburg, May 11, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 11th instant, by Surg. R. W. Pease, directed to the commanding officer of the dismounted cavalry. In reply I have to inform you that to my knowledge there is no dismounted cavalry in or near Fredericksburg; that my command, the Twenty-second New York Cavalry, consists of only a little over 600 men for duty. In addition to this force there are only 100 infantry of the Fifty-seventh New York, a force in my opinion entirely inadequate to the defense of the town in case of a guerrilla raid, and for the performance of all the other duty required of us. My command has furnished escorts to every ambulance train to the lines of the army, and the escorts were not sent to the battle-field, as by the advice of the provost-marshal it was not thought necessary. I have also sent escorts with every ambulance and supply train from here to Belle Plain. I keep a picket on every road leading into Fredericksburg, and a strong guard along the bank of the river to prevent stragglers from going over on boats, rafts, or bridges, and allowing none but wounded to pass. I also furnish mounted orderlies for the provost-marshal and the surgeon-in-chief, and men to bury the dead. I have now over 150 men here for the defense of the city. If you wish escorts to accompany ambulance trains to the battle-field and back, it shall be done, and should you think any changes in the disposition of my forces necessary, I trust you will inform me.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. McLENNAN,
Major, Commanding Twenty-second New York Cavalry.

MAY 11, 1864—11.30 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that you send Major-General Birney's division to unite with General Mott's, and both, under the command of General Birney, to form a connection between Generals Wright and Burnside. General Wright will indicate to General Birney the route he should follow.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

The reserve brigade of General Gibbon will be placed in the gap made by the withdrawal of Birney.

A. A. H.

(Copy to commanding officer Fifth Army Corps except last paragraph.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 11, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: You will move, as soon after dark as it can be done without attracting the attention of the enemy, the divisions of Birney and Barlow, with which and Mott's division you will assault the enemy's line from the left of the position now occupied by General Wright and between him and General Burnside. The position occupied yesterday by General Mott, or to the left of it, near Hicks' house, would be a suitable point. This assault should be made at 4 a. m. as promptly as possible. There are two roads by which you can move. Gibbon's division cannot be moved without giving notice to the enemy. He will be moved before daylight to the shorter line we shall occupy, and if he can possibly be spared he will be sent to you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864.

The First and Third Divisions of the corps will leave their present positions quietly at — o'clock to-night. They will be led by staff officers from these headquarters to their new positions (but a short distance). All wheeled vehicles will be sent to the general train as soon as possible after the troops have left. The pickets will be withdrawn promptly at — o'clock a. m. The men will be permitted to build fires this evening before the march, but after arriving in the new position no fires will be allowed. In marching to the new position the men will be kept well closed up, the distance being so short there can be no excuse for straggling. The pioneers will carry all their tools with them. In going into action they will carry them in their hands. The artillery will be led by a staff officer under the direction of the chief of artillery to the new position by a different road from that taken by the infantry, and be placed in position under his direction. At [4] o'clock an assault will be made at the enemy's work in front by Birney's and Barlow's divisions, supported by Mott's division. When a lodgment is made in the enemy's position of sufficient extent, it will be intrenched. A staff officer of each division will be sent to conduct the pickets to the new position. The formation will be indicated hereafter. Three wagons of intrenching tools will be at hand, from which the commanders may, if they think proper, provide some of their rear divisions.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
Wednesday May 11, 1864—1.40 p. m.
(Received 2.10 p. m.)

We are just bringing a battery into position at Talley's house to drive out the enemy at Chewning's house. My skirmishers are just crossing the river at the mill. Nothing developed yet. My force

*Signature to this circular missing from the copy on file in the War Department.

on the Todd's Tavern road has not struck anything yet. The enemy have two guns at Chewning's but only a small force of infantry is visible.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 11, 1864—2.05 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Colonel Miles has reached Todd's Tavern and found no enemy. He is advancing to comply with the order to examine the Catharpin road. We are shelling Chewning's house, but get no answer. I have not yet heard from my skirmishers, who are crossing at the mill.

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS, *May* 11, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Our skirmishers nearly reached the Spotsylvania road at the cross-road at Chewning's. They there encountered a skirmish line in rifle-pits, and were pushed back. The enemy are in no force and developed no line of battle. It is clear they are not holding the point in force. Will communicate further when officer commanding comes out. We have retired.

FRANCIS C. BARLOW.

TODD'S TAVERN, *May* 11, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER, *A. A. G.:*

COLONEL: The skirmish line is advanced into the woods beyond and in front of General Birney's position. No sign of any of the enemy. Six rebel scouts were at the first house on the right of the Catharpin road, in the first opening beyond Todd's Tavern, at 2 p. m. yesterday. They questioned the people living there pretty closely as to the location of the right of our line, and also as to our losses, and passed back toward Corbin's Bridge. Cavalry scouts have been sent out on the road and to the right and left for at least a mile beyond our position, but discover nothing.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN FRASER,
Col. 140th Pa. Vols., Second Corps, Comdg. Detach.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 11, 1864—10.15 a. m.

General [HANCOCK]:

Looking across the Po to the position I held yesterday morning, I can see a column (I think of infantry) passing down toward the bridge Barlow was trying to take on the Catharpin road. The rifle-pits above the house are occupied by infantry.

Respectfully, yours,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 11, 1864—12.12 [p.] m.

General BIRNEY:

You will proceed to join the left of Major-General Wright and take command of your own and Mott's divisions, and advance to the right of General Burnside, sweeping everything in your way until you form the junction. Leave a company of sharpshooters here for the present.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 11, 1864.

The brigadier-general commanding is grieved to notice that the Fourth Division, Second Corps, is sacrificing the reputation of "Hooker's old division" (subsequently so ably commanded by Sickles and Berry). There is no excuse for such conduct. The combined armies of the Union are moving at once. Victories are being gained at every point, and the death blow is being dealt to rebellion. The time calls for greater exertion than any previous one, and the commanding general expects it will be put forth. Commanding officers of brigades, regiments, and companies are called upon and enjoined to exercise that example and authority required of them by existing orders and regulations. Let us show to the army and the world that our part has been fully and faithfully performed.

By command of Brigadier-General Mott:

T. W. EAYRE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 11, 1864—6 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel BANKHEAD:

General Warren has just ordered 500 of the heavy artillery over to your place to be put into the breast-works. If you want more send for them. The general wishes you to extend the picket-line, say, a quarter of a mile further out in the direction of the Coleman house, with the square barn. There are some rail piles where the old line was. Perhaps our men carried those piles off this morning.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 11, 1864—6.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

I am instructed by the major-general commanding to inform you that the Second Corps will be withdrawn to-night from its position, which you will hold in addition to the position now held by you. Colonel Kitching's heavy artillery brigade will be retained by you. You will arrange with the commander of the Second Corps the time

and order of withdrawal of the troops of that corps, and the occupation by your troops of their positions. You will shorten your lines wherever, in your judgment, upon a consideration of all the circumstances, it would be advisable. To aid in meeting an attack of the enemy or his advance upon our right, General Wright, commanding Sixth Corps, will post at Alsop's, in the vicinity of your present headquarters, a division of his corps, under the command of General Russell, that will be held ready to move wherever required. Another division of his corps, under General Wheaton, will be held ready near his own position to support wherever needed. The combined attack of Burnside and Hancock will take place at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow, at which hour your troops will be in readiness.

Headquarters will be at ———.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 11, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that these headquarters will be moved early to-morrow morning to the vicinity of Hicks' house, from which point telegraphic communication will be established with you. Please inform me by the bearer whether you intend remaining at your present location during to-morrow, or whether you would prefer having the telegraph run to some other point to be designated by you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

I shall have to use General Bartlett's brigade on our right to-morrow morning and wish him to have his brigade under arms and the head of column marched by the road right in front up to headquarters by 3 a. m. General Hancock's troops have been relieved on my right to make an assault by daybreak on the enemy's right in connection with General Burnside. Tell General Bartlett to report to me when the head of his column reaches me.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Regimental commanders will have their commands in readiness to comply with the above.

[J. J. B.]

MAY 11, 1864.

Captain CONRAD:

The enemy appear to be about planting a battery on our left.

L. B. BRUEN,
Major Twelfth Infantry, Comdg. Regiment.

[Indorsement.]

MAY 11, 1864—7 a. m.

Respectfully forwarded.

This place referred to is the point of pine woods beyond the orchard. The enemy are cutting the trees down on that point.

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 11, 1864—10.15 a. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: The condition of the Second Division requires immediate attention. Is it your desire that I should assume command of it, as you mentioned on the 9th? Colonel Coulter is now reporting to me.

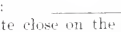
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
Battle-field, Jones' Plantation, May 11, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have returned from my right. The enemy are throwing up a line of breast-works in a parallel direction to my line, but so much retired that I think there is an angle formed. The direction of my line is nearly east and west, and the rebel line appears to be in this shape:



Our lines are quite close on the right. The enemy's line at that point is so much under the fire of my sharpshooters that they have to run in front of it. General Humphreys visited that point of the line with me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864—3 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I wish you would use all the axes you have in strengthening the breast-works in front of Coulter's brigade, and have the trees felled well out to the front of the line.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 11, 1864—7 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I wish you would have your command in readiness to be extended to the left so as to cover the space now occupied by General Gibbon's troops (Webb's and Owen's brigades), when he is ready to move to-night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
Battle-field, Jones' Plantation, May 11, 1864—7.15 p. m.

GENERAL: In covering the ground vacated by Webb and Owen, I must move Coulter from the line of intrenchments he has been occupying and upon which he is at work. I desire to report that the enemy are preparing to establish a battery which will enfilade my line from the right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I do not want you to move Colonel Coulter out to the front. Take the Pennsylvania Reserves and lengthen them out so as to hold the whole line, even if they are in but one rank. I want this line thin, because of the enfilading battery you speak of. Keep Coulter in the trenches where he is, and tell him to keep cutting timber in his front and make it strong. If your men are attacked on the outer line, let them hold on as stubbornly as possible. General Gibbon will communicate with you when he wishes to withdraw, and you must replace his line as quickly as possible.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864—3 p. m.

General CUTLER:

I wish you would put all the axes at work felling trees in front of your main line, and make it as strong as you can.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864—10 p. m.

General CUTLER:

I send you good news from Sheridan's advance in the enemy's rear. Have your command in readiness at daybreak, and your skirmish line very strong. There is to be a heavy attack made by us at daybreak on the enemy's right, and he will undoubtedly feel our front. Keep clearing away the woods in your front.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 11, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: In answer to your circular of this morning I respectfully report as follows: It will require a force of about 8,000 men to

hold securely the rifle-pits and picket-line of the corps, leaving about 6,000 men available for offensive operations elsewhere. This does not include General Mott's command. Of his division 1,000 men will be required for picket duty and 1,600 will be available for other operations. Three batteries can also be spared from this corps. No additional works are necessary on my front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 11, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieut. Col. M. T. MCMAHON,
A. A. G. and Chief of Staff, Sixth Corps:

COLONEL: My division officer of the day reports the connection with General Burnside's pickets complete.

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Russell reports that the movement to the right seen by him was at the point attacked by us last evening; that his pickets hear cutting away of timber to the left of this position, and report that the enemy were at work there nearly all night. He thinks they may be cutting away for batteries, or making roads. He is about pushing forward his division.

Very respectfully,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

[Indorsement.]

General Mott's pickets connect with General Burnside. The firing is Warren shelling a piece of woods in his front. No development, as yet, from Hancock's movement. I have ordered him to advance his skirmishers across the Po, besides sending a brigade above.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 11, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Neill reports a portion of the force that was seen moving to the right this morning as now moving back toward our left on his front. They were moving partly on the double-quick.

Very respectfully,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.
Per M. T. MCMAHON.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 11, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I can establish my left on the Brown house, which is understood to be the point on which General Burnside is moving, and where he is to rest his right. I will put a brigade beyond the house in support of a couple of batteries. I can still hold my present line of rifle-pits. The pickets have ceased firing, in consequence of the enemy's sharpshooters, who are exceedingly annoying; but the enemy is reported in line of battle at various points on my front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 11, 1864—5 p. m.

The rifle-pits on the line of the corps will be occupied by the divisions of General Ricketts and General Mott. The divisions of General Russell and General Neill will be withdrawn from the rifle-pits, and formed in two lines each, the former in rear of its present position, the latter in rear of the right of the present line of the corps. Both of these divisions will be held in readiness to move wherever needed. General Mott will withdraw at dark the reconnoitering party sent out this morning. The present picket-line will be maintained.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 11, 1864—9.45 p. m.

This division will be in readiness to move at 3.30 a. m. to-morrow in the following order: First Brigade, Second Brigade, Third Brigade, Fourth Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Russell:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
May 11, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Make immediate preparation to send back to Belle Plain every team you have empty or can empty to bring up fresh supplies. Unload from your present supplies two days' rations to be issued to men, and ammunition enough to fill all the cartridge-boxes. All the trains of the Army of the Potomac will go back at the same time. Send as escort to the trains your cavalry and colored

division. There will be arriving at Belle Plain re-enforcements for this army sufficient to make with this escort a strong column to protect the train on its return.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

[Indorsement.]

MAY 11, 1864.

This order was not delivered to Major-General Burnside until 1 p. m. on account of my being unable to reach him by the route first attempted.

W. L. DUFF,
Lieut. Col. and A. I. G., staff of Lieutenant-General Grant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
In the Field, near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va.,
May 11, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: After the departure of the trains with the colored troops and cavalry of your command for Belle Plain, as per orders of to-day, there will be but small trains remaining here, and each corps will guard its own. You can guard yours by sending back your Provisional Brigade to where it now is, or you can bring your trains up closer to you as you may deem most prudent.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 11, 1864—4 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Major-General Hancock has been ordered to move his entire corps under cover of night to join you in a vigorous attack against the enemy at 4 a. m. of to-morrow, the 12th instant. You will move against the enemy with your entire force promptly and with all possible vigor at precisely 4 o'clock to-morrow morning. Let your preparations for this attack be conducted with the utmost secrecy, and veiled entirely from the enemy. I send two of my staff officers, Colonels Comstock and Babcock, in whom I have great confidence, to remain with you and General Hancock, and who are acquainted with the direction the attack is to be made from here, with instructions to render you every assistance in their power. Generals Warren and Wright will hold their corps as close to the enemy as possible, to take advantage of any diversion caused by your and Hancock's attack, and will push in their whole force if any opportunity presents itself.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 11, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

Only so much of General Ferrero's division will be sent as convoys to our empty wagons ordered to Belle Plain as the quartermaster in charge may deem sufficient. The remainder will be continued on its present duty of guarding roads to our rear, and on which our trains move. General Ferrero has been so instructed. This will enable you to use your Provisional Brigade if you need it.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 11, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Scout just in from General Sheridan with dispatches. He has reached the South Anna, and is followed by the rebel cavalry. He has cut 10 miles of the Orange and Richmond Railroad, destroyed two locomotives and three trains, and a very large quantity of provisions. He has recaptured 500 of our men, including 2 colonels, and Lee's papers.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 11, 1864—8 p. m.

Brig. Gen. E. FERRERO,
Comdg. U. S. Colored Troops, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will furnish only such escort for trains going to Belle Plain as the quartermaster in charge of same may require, retaining the remainder of your command in its present position, guarding the roads in our rear and on which are our trains. Communicate this order to General Burnside.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Gayle's House, May 11, 1864—5.15 a. m.

Colonel MARSHALL,
Commanding at Alsop's:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you bring your entire force to this point at once, leaving only your picket-line on duty, and that portion of the cavalry force now on duty in the road from here to Alsop's house. He desires that you use the greatest

possible haste in the execution of this order. Bring with you every available man, leaving the picket-line as small as possible. Report in great haste.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
May 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES,
Comdg. First Brig., Second Div., Cav. Corps:

GENERAL: In compliance with instructions from Cavalry Corps headquarters, which requires the employment of a brigade from this division for the purpose, you will proceed with your command at 3 o'clock this a. m. by the shortest practicable route to the Fredericksburg and Richmond Railroad and destroy the road as completely as possible, the injury to be done the road between the point at which you strike it and the intersection of said railroad with the Ground Squirrel road. At the last-named intersection your brigade will join the remainder of the division, which will march from here at 6 o'clock this a. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 11, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General AUGUR, or
Brigadier-General BRIGGS,
Alexandria, Va.:

All troops for the Army of the Potomac should be sent to Belle Plain as fast as they arrive.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
May 11, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Major-General AUGUR,
Commanding, &c.:

The Eleventh Vermont Volunteers, Colonel Warner, will be sent as infantry to Belle Plain with all possible dispatch. They will carry five days' rations and a full supply of ammunition. Small guards of Reserves or artillery in the forts they vacate, and also in those south of Anacostia Creek, to protect the ammunition, will suffice till militia regiments arrive.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *May* 11, 1864.
(Received 11.10 a. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The men for Army of the Potomac, going to Belle Plain, are now embarking. There will be about 3,400.

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *May* 11, 1864.
(Received 12.45 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Transportation is ready here for the First Connecticut (Abbot's) Regiment; do you wish them to go to-day? If so, please send the order to Colonel Taylor at my headquarters, who will see to its execution. If it is not to go to-day could not this transportation be used for taking the cavalry to Belle Plain?

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General.

WASHINTGON, D. C., *May* 11, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Major-General AUGUR,
Alexandria, Va.:

The First Connecticut must go immediately. I do not understand why the order has been delayed.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 11, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER,
Commanding at Fredericksburg, Va.:

COLONEL: I send an important dispatch for General Grant from the War Department by 2 different messengers. As they arrive please send them forward without delay, and separately and safely.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, May 11, 1864—11.10 p. m.
(Received 9.14 a. m. 12th.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Dispatches from General Grant just received. The two armies are still at Spotsylvania Court-House, where the rebels are making a desperate stand. There have been two days' hard fighting without any material advantage to either side, but General Grant considers himself the gainer. He is looking with great interest for the results of your operations.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

BERMUDA LANDING, *May* 11, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have detained the morning mail-boat for your mail. The Greyhound has just returned from Jamestown Island. No dispatches for you. One came up for the admiral. Will send the Greyhound back at once, and have another boat ready to take whatever you may have to send. I think it would be well to appoint a dispatch and express messenger.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 11, 1864—6.30 p. m.
(Received 7.20 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS, *Quartermaster-General:*

Four tugs will leave for Washington at once. Will send tug to-night if it arrives from City Point. General Butler has ordered steamers to be held at Bermuda Hundred sufficient to carry 5,000 infantry and corresponding amount of cavalry and artillery. Have forwarded supplies for fifty days' commissary subsistence stores and twenty days' forage; large amount of ammunition. Am ordered to increase supply of forage to thirty days for 7,000 animals. What water transportation can be spared am sending to New York, Baltimore, and Hilton Head; to General Rucker such propellers as he has required. Am collecting considerable corn and fodder from farms near Fort Powhatan and Wilson's Landing. General Kautz arrived at City Point yesterday.

HERMAN BIGGS,
Colonel and Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 11, 1864—[9.30 p. m.]

Major-General GILLMORE, *Comdg. Tenth Army Corps:*

A movement will be made to-morrow morning at daybreak of the troops in the manner following: General Smith will take all of his corps that can be spared from his line with safety, and will demonstrate against the enemy up the turnpike, extending his line of advance to the left, with his right resting at the beginning of the movement, on the river at or near Howlett's house, pressing the enemy into their intrenchments with the endeavor to turn them on the left, if not too hotly opposed. General Gillmore will order one division of his corps to report to General Smith with two days' rations ready to march at any time at or after daylight, at General Smith's order. General Gillmore will make such disposition with the remainder of his corps as to hold the enemy in check if any movement is made upon the rear of General Smith or upon our lines from the direction of Petersburg, holding such troops as may not be necessary to be thrown forward by him upon the turnpike in reserve, ready to reenforce either point that may be attacked.

Of course, General Smith's demonstration will cover the right of General Gillmore's line of works, unless he [—General Smith—] is forced back. General Kautz has orders to proceed as soon as the demonstration of General Smith's troops has masked his movements from at or near Chester Station, to make demonstrations upon the

Danville road for the purpose of cutting it. It is intended to develop [by this movement] the entire strength of the enemy in the direction of Richmond, and, if possible, either to force them within their intrenchments or turn them, as the case may be. If successful, it is supposed that the troops will occupy during the night the line of advance secured. General Hinks has orders to seize and hold a point [on the Appomattox] opposite General Smith's headquarters pending this movement. The commanding general fails to make further orders in detail because of personal explanation given to each corps commander of the movement intended.*

Respectfully,

[BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 11, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: I have the honor to invite your attention to my letter of the 8th instant, and respectfully request to be informed if any more cavalry can be spared for duty with the Tenth Corps.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., May 11, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. E. FULLER,
Chief Quartermaster, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Major-General Gillmore desires to be informed as to the disposition made by you of the transportation belonging to the Tenth Army Corps. Transportation sufficient to supply the corps was ordered to accompany the command. Has it arrived? If so, he wishes you to forward it as soon as possible, as much serious inconvenience is experienced for want of it. If sent to these headquarters charge will be taken of transporting all supplies for the Tenth Corps.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding Department:*

GENERAL: I am informed by General Ames that a number of men of both the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps have been discovered outside the intrenchments. I have ordered a cavalry force to go out and bring them in.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, &c.,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

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*For similar communication to General Smith (the differences in copies found being herein noted in brackets), see p. 113.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 5. } *In the Field, May* 11, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. All detachments of the First New York Volunteer Engineers, now serving with division, will be relieved without delay and ordered to report to their colonel.

5. All business with these headquarters, relating to topographical and constructive engineer operations, will be transacted through Maj. T. B. Brooks, aide-de-camp, who is hereby appointed directing engineer of this corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Captain, Forty-seventh New York Vols. and A. A. A. G.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division, Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you cause the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers to be relieved from picket duty at the front as early as practicable, and ordered to report to their division commander.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Captain, Forty-seventh New York Vols. and A. A. A. G.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 11, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,
Commanding Second Division, Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have your command in readiness to move at 4 a. m. to-morrow, the 12th instant, in light marching order, with two days' cooked rations and 60 rounds of ammunition. Two batteries will accompany you; the remaining one will be held in readiness to move at short notice. Your command will be got under arms with as little noise as possible. No reveille will be sounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

You will accompany Major-General Smith and report to him between this and daylight for orders.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 11, 1864—12 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Third Division, Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have your command in readiness to move at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow, the 12th instant, except the pickets, in light marching order, with two days'

cooked rations and 60 rounds of ammunition. Two batteries will accompany you; the remaining one will be held in readiness to move at short notice. The troops will be got under arms with as little noise as possible. No reveille will be sounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH.
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—It is intended that you go to Port Walthall Junction to cover an advance on the right of our line to be made by General W. F. Smith. General Smith is to move at daybreak, and if you receive no further orders you will move from the line of intrenchments after the Eighteenth Corps and Turner's division, of the Tenth Corps, have passed out. General Turner accompanies General Smith.

Q. A. GILLMORE.

The last order will have precedence, and you will only take such precautions for your defense as your own situation during the night may suggest.

Q. A. GILLMORE.

MAY 11, 1864.

General BUTLER:

I understand a courier has been captured from Beauregard, saying he was on his way to Drewry's Bluff. Is this correct? Do you wish any change of movements?

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: I have the honor to request that you will inform me this evening, at once if possible, of the movements contemplated to-morrow morning, in order that I may make the necessary arrangements.*

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. T. H. BROOKS,
Comdg. First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding corps desires that you will issue the necessary orders immediately to have the cartridge-boxes of the men filled and to take 20 rounds in their pockets. The men

* For instructions to Smith, see p. 113.

will fill their canteens and take two days' rations in their haversacks: the whole command will be in readiness to move in light marching order at daybreak to-morrow. The pickets will not be removed.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. P. MUHLENBERG,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

POINT LOOKOUT, *May* 11, 1864.

Lieut. H. T. SHROEDER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Fort Monroe:

Captain Hooker, of the navy, wants the co-operation of 300 men to-night to capture torpedoes 3 miles from shore. Can I give it? Please answer.

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel, Commanding District.

FLAG-SHIP N. ATLANTIC BLOCKADING SQUADRON,
James River, May 11, 1864. (Received 9.55 p. m. 12th.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Saw General Butler to-day. He says after two days' fighting at New Berne the enemy were repulsed, and retired. He gave me no information from Richmond, nor have I any. General Smith thinks that as the Petersburg railroad is cut, the rebel army must, from want of supplies, retreat, if it does not break up, into North Carolina, and that General Grant may take Richmond without further fighting. Commander Parker reports that the iron-clad ram North Carolina came out of Wilmington on the night of the 6th instant, and returned next morning, engaged and followed by the blockaders, who received no damage. Commander Davenport has heard unofficially that the iron-clad ram Albemarle was rammed by the Sassacus. Latter injured in stern and boiler; lost 2 men killed, and had 18 wounded. Mattabesett lost 2 men killed. The Bombshell, army gun-boat, was recaptured. Ram returned, apparently uninjured, to Plymouth. This intelligence he finds is partially corroborated by a dispatch from Captain Smith to General Palmer. The reports sent by mail to-morrow will reach you next day. Captain Sands reports that the rebels have established lights for both bars to Wilmington—one on Bald Head light-house, the other on the Mound fort—for the blockade-runners.

S. P. LEE,
Actg. Rear-Admiral, Comdg. N. A. Block. Squad.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 12, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *General-in-Chief:*

GENERAL: By this bearer of dispatches I transmit to you all the military intelligence which has been received by this Department since the dispatch forwarded to you night before last. An officer

will be sent to-day to Belle Plain, to receive and transmit telegraphic messages that may be forwarded from your headquarters for Washington, and such as may be transmitted from here to you. His name will be designated to you, and thus a more frequent and early communication can be established. Major-General Halleck, chief of staff, will inform you what measures are taken to furnish you with re-enforcements, and to relieve you from the burden of the wounded and prisoners that are now on your hands. Colonel Hoffman, Commissary-General of Prisoners, will be sent to Belle Plain to-day, and, if necessary, to your headquarters, to make the proper arrangements. I have communicated with Mrs. Grant while she remained in New York. I received yesterday a letter from Mr. Hillyer, at whose house she was staying, informing me that she had returned in good health to Saint Louis; I shall communicate with her to-day. I also inclose you a note* received from Lieutenant-General Scott, which he desired to have transmitted to you.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

P. S.—General Kautz's nomination is confirmed. General Wright will be confirmed as major-general to-day. Please furnish me with any other nominations you desire to have made.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington:*

Send General Augur, if possible, with 10,000 of the best infantry from the defenses of Washington.

U. S. GRANT.
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 12, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington, D. C.:*

The eighth day of battle closes, leaving between 3,000 and 4,000 prisoners in our hands for the day's work, including 2 general officers and over 30 pieces of artillery. The enemy are obstinate and seem to have found the last ditch. We have lost no organization, not even that of a company, while we have destroyed and captured one division (Johnson's), one brigade (Doles'), and one regiment entire of the enemy.

U. S. GRANT.
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 12, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: One officer and some hundred or more men, deserters, have arrived here with the wounded, under pretense of wounds,

* Not found.

which on examination is found to be false. They are unquestionably cowardly deserters, and deserve the death penalty. The Secretary of War has directed that the officer be placed in irons and the men under strong guard and sent back to your headquarters to be disposed of as you may deem proper. He directs me to say that he advises and authorizes you to have these deserters tried by a drumhead court, and if guilty, executed without delay as an example. Prompt and severe punishment is deemed necessary to prevent straggling and desertion. A considerable number of our deserters are said to be on the Rappahannock, robbing for subsistence, and waiting to get through our lines or to be picked up by rebel cavalry. Some are said to have reached the Potomac and crossed into Maryland. Your action in this matter, whatever it may be, will be sanctioned by the War Department.

I hope to be able to send you 10,000 re-enforcements by to-morrow night, and 3,000 or 4,000 more in a few days. I have ordered everything from the Rappahannock Station, inside of Bull Run, which will be our outer line. This will enable me to send you some 1,500 men from there. A battery of artillery and some companies of invalids have been ordered to Belle Plain as guards for depot and supplies. When you break off communication with that place, and the wounded are all withdrawn, the depot will be broken up and removed to such place as you may direct. Heard from Sherman to yesterday. His operations delayed by non-arrival of Stoneman's cavalry. No general engagement yet. Buzzard Roost found too strong, and he will now attempt to turn it. Nothing new from Butler.

Steele returned to Little Rock on the 3d badly cut up. General Rosecrans, after repeated orders, still retains the Ninth Iowa Cavalry. General Canby has been authorized by Secretary of War to take troops from Department of Missouri. Ohio militia is organizing pretty rapidly, but not a regiment yet raised in Indiana, Illinois, or Iowa. No recent news from Banks. By last accounts his army was nearly in a state of mutiny. He abandoned Admiral Porter in his retreat and many of the gun-boats were destroyed or lost. The enemy did not pursue, except in small detachments, Kirby Smith's main force being sent to re-enforce Price against Steele.

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—This will be sent by the escort of deserters.

H. W. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 12, 1864. (Received 11.30 p. m. 13th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I sent this evening to Belle Plain all the prisoners captured to this time. Please direct the commanding officer there what to do with them.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: This Department congratulates you and your heroic army, and returns its cordial thanks for their gallant achievements during the last seven days, and hopes that the valor and skill thus far manifested will be crowned with the fruits of ultimate and decisive victory. Major-General Wright has been nominated, and will be confirmed to-day by the Senate, as a major-general in the place of General Sedgwick. I am informed that all of the other pending nominations for officers in your command will also be confirmed to-day. The sad casualties that have befallen the officers of your army leave many vacancies to be filled, and if you will send me the names of the persons you desire to have appointed to the rank of brigadier, their nominations will be immediately sent to the Senate.

I beg to suggest that on the first occasion that may offer for a flag of truce, every effort be made to recover the remains of the gallant General Wadsworth, which are understood to be still in the hands of the enemy, and those of any other officers who may be in a like situation.

Trusting that Divine Providence may have you in His keeping, in the midst of the dangers that now surround you, I remain,

Truly, yours,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

[Memorandum of answer.]

I have the honor to acknowledge your kind letter of congratulation, and on behalf of this army to return you my thanks for the same. I have communicated to the army the high appreciation entertained by the Department of its services, and I feel confident this appreciation will prove a great incentive to future exertions. I shall avail myself of your generous offer to promote deserving officers, and will, so soon as I can confer with corps commanders, present a list of names for your action.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

General GRANT:

Warren seems reluctant to assault. I have ordered him at all hazards to do so, and if his attack should be repulsed to draw in the right and send his troops as fast as possible to Wright and Hancock. Tell Hancock to hold on.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

If Warren fails to attack promptly, send Humphreys to command his corps, and relieve him. I have ordered Burnside to push on vigorously, and to send a division to Hancock.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General [HUMPHREYS]:

Please remain here and in my name attend to the shortening of the line and the sending re-enforcements to Wright and Hancock. I am now going to Hancock's, where there will be a telegraph, and where if I am absent news can be brought.

MEADE.

MAY 12, 1864—11.25 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I am here. What progress has been made?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

Crawford is now moving to Wright. It will be some time before the pickets are drawn in from the extreme right. They now extend to the ford.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Do not wait for the pickets, but move on.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have sent Major Duane to see General Wright and learn about his position and the best mode of covering his flank. Afterward he will report to you. I wish at least two divisions of the Fifth Corps—one for Wright (Cutler's) and one for Hancock (Griffin's). Make the best disposition of the balance and your artillery, and let even the balance be ready to come this way.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Take the Fifth Corps to the point indicated. Cutler has gone. I have ordered Griffin. Take the balance at once.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have ordered the Fifth Corps to move down to Wright's support. He will at once organize a heavy column of assault from both corps, which I trust will break through the enemy's line. Hancock will press forward at the same time, and I trust Burnside will do the same. Everything is working well on the field by my reports.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 12, 1864—3.45 a. m.

General [HUMPHREYS]:

My troops are nearly formed. As it is misty I think I shall wait until it is a little more clear, by which time my troops will be formed. I have no artillery here. It has gone the other road, but I suppose my chief of artillery has placed it. I wish to have some here.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—5 a. m.

General MEADE:

Our men have the works, with some hundred prisoners; impossible to say how many; whole line moving up. This part of the line was held by Ewell.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

P. S.—General Hancock's troops are in second line works.

OPERATOR.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 12, 1864—5.55 a. m.

[General MEADE:]

It is necessary that General Wright should attack at once. All of my troops are engaged.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your good news is most welcome. Burnside attacked at the appointed hour. Wright is ordered in at once on your right. Hold all you get and press on.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—6 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

General Wright has been ordered to attack at once vigorously on your right.

S. WILLIAMS.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 12, 1864—7 a. m.

General MEADE:

General Wright, of Sixth Army Corps, slightly wounded, but still in command.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.
Major-General.

SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Prisoners come in rapidly; probably over 2,000. General Johnson is among them.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

MAY 12, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

I have captured Maj. Gen. E. Johnson and another General Johnston. If no one else attacks I may be turned and forced back, still I trust not.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.
Major-General.

I have captured General Stewart.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Warren is attacking with all his force on his front. The commanding general considers this the best assistance he can give you and desires you to push on.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 12, 1864—7.15 a. m.

General MEADE:

It is supposed we have captured about 30 or 40 guns. I hold their line of works. My troops are in great disorder, but I am working hard and will soon have them under organization. General Wright is now going in on my right, where his attack should be continued. By the prisoners coming in I see we have finished Johnson's division and commenced on Early's.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Warren is going in to do all he can and keep troops from you. Push on, for now is our time.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

Wright says his right is attacked. Warren is attacking, but it is of the utmost importance you should press on.

MEADE.

SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

I must get a line [in] order first, or I may have trouble, before pressing on. I have used all the men through the woods nearly, and they have lost their organization. I am now using the artillery against them and some of enemy's. We have captured a good many guns. I suppose 3,000 prisoners. I cannot hear how many. Possibly more.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HANCOCK'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864—8.50 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

The enemy have been attacking us with great vehemence. I am now taking prisoners from Rodes' division. We will push forward as soon as this attack is repulsed, but now I am watching my right very closely along the stream. Burnside is not strongly connected with me, though I have had some of his stragglers come in to my left. I hope he will make a strong connection soon. I have no doubt he will.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

My right did once connect with your left and runs about southeast from that point about three-fourths of a mile. My left is about one-half a mile northeast of Spotsylvania Court-House.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

General MEADE:

Straggler says enemy coming in on my right. Am making disposition to drive them. Am now having furious engagement in Getty's intrenchments.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Join one smart attack to my right, if possible. I am driving them everywhere else, but impossible there.

HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HANCOCK'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

A tremendous attack has just again been made on my right, and it requires all of my troops to repulse it. I am still pressing them, however, at other points over the rifle-pits.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Some one must attack to my right, if possible. I am driving them everywhere else, but am pressed there.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I have not a man to spare. All Warren's and Wright's troops are engaged in the fight. Should Warren's attack fail, I will send you such of his troops as can be spared.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HANCOCK'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864.

General MEADE:

General Wright is keeping up a heavy artillery fire and trying to enfilade the line at the Salient. It has the effect to relieve the infantry somewhat, and it is believed causes the enemy some damage.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General

MAY 12, 1864.

General MEADE:

The attack upon our right has been repulsed.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—3 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

What causes so much artillery firing? Are they our guns or those of the enemy? If ours, are they doing much damage?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

SECOND CORPS HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Does General Meade desire General Griffin's division to return across the stream or remain on this side? General Warren wants it on the other side.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

It was supposed General Warren would post it on the other side, but of that he has been left the judge. Instructions have just been sent him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 8.20 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding directs that the lines occupied by your corps be strengthened as much as possible, so as to give you available force to meet an attack at any point on your front, or that of the army, should one be made. The army will not resume the offensive to-morrow, but rest, as far as practicable. Should any portion of General Warren's troops have reported to you to-day, the commanding general directs that they be returned to General Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—9.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Comdg. Second Army Corps:*

The major-general commanding desires to know if you will have any surplus force after your trenches are fully manned. The trenches should be rendered as strong as possible.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Birney's loss in this action was a trifle over 2,800 killed, wounded, and missing. General Mott's loss is unquestionably heavy, say 1,500; Barlow's, say 1,000—at least that. Gibbon's is already reported at 1,800. Total, say 7,100.

General Birney has collected over 3,000 stand of arms, of which eight wagon loads have been sent away. General Mott, if the time permits, will collect more—perhaps 2,000. What cannot be carried off will be destroyed.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

The major-general commanding directs that the defensive works of this command be strengthened as much as possible, so as to have as many troops as possible available for reserve. The army will not assume offensive operations to-morrow. Commanders are requested to see that the intrenching tools are properly cared for.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—6 a. m.

General G. K. WARREN:

Keep up as threatening an attitude as possible to keep the enemy in your front. Wright must attack and you may have to. Be ready and do the best you can.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—6.15 a. m.

General MEADE:

I am firing from five batteries on the enemy's position, and ordered my skirmishers to push their line forward wherever it is possible. No report of demonstrations on my line by the enemy.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

All the troops that can be spared are needed to support my right and extend it. We are hard pressed.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—7.30 a. m.

General WARREN:

Wright says his right is attacked strongly and wants support. Your attack will in a measure relieve him, but you must also support him with some of your troops, or you will be turned.

GEO. G. MEADE.

[NOTE BY GENERAL WARREN:]

General Bartlett sent to General Wright.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—8 a. m.

General WARREN:

Attack immediately with all the force you can, and be prepared to follow up any success with the rest of your force.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864.

General MEADE:

Your order to attack immediately with my whole force leaves me no time to attack the key points first. One of them is in front of Crawford; another is in front of the Sixth Corps, which enfilades and takes my left in reverse. Your orders have been issued and reiterated.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

It does not take many men from the enemy to hold the intrenchments in my front.

G. K. W.

MAY 12, 1864—9.10 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Griffin is very anxious to have Bartlett's brigade. Can you send it and retain Kitching's. I cannot advance my men farther at present.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—9.10 a. m.

General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Bartlett is retained here until it is ascertained where he is most needed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 12—9.10 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My left cannot advance without a most destructive enfilade fire until the Sixth Corps has cleared its front. My right is close up to the enemy's works, and ordered to assault. The enemy's line here appears to be strongly held. It is his point d'appui if he throws back his right.

G. K. WARREN.
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The order of the major-general commanding is peremptory that you attack at once at all hazards with your whole force, if necessary.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—9.30 a. m.

DEAR WARREN:

Don't hesitate to attack with the bayonet. Meade has assumed the responsibility and will take the consequences.

Your friend,

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General WARREN:

Bartlett is sent to Griffin. Kitching will be retained for Wright. Hancock and Wright both report that they are hard pressed. The commanding general concludes that the enemy cannot be very strong in your front.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 12, 1864—9.40 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My lines nearest the salient of the enemy are reported constantly advancing up to the enemy's works. My orders* are to attack with the bayonet without regard to consequences that may result unfavorably.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864—10.05 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding infers from the tenor of your dispatches that, in your judgment, your attack will not be successful. Should it fail, make your dispositions to draw in your troops and send them as fast as possible to the support of General Wright and General Hancock.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—12 m.

General MEADE:

Captain Adams, of Massachusetts squadron of cavalry, sends in a report that the enemy have planted a battery about 2 miles from here on our right and are shelling our troops in that vicinity. As yet the enemy have but one piece of artillery.

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

General MEADE:

My cavalry were mistaken and reported my own skirmishers for the enemy's. No indications of enemy on my right.

G. K. WARREN.

THURSDAY, *May* 12, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: The enemy have posted a battery across the Po to enfilade our line. The house at which General Barlow posted his battery yesterday they have some sharpshooters, but I see no signs of an intention of crossing as yet. Their battery is opposite the Talley house, in low ground.

C. F. ADAMS, JR.,
Captain, Commanding Cavalry Escort.

*See Warren to Griffin, Crawford, and Cutler, 9.30 a. m., pp. 668, 669, 671.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I have already telegraphed General Humphreys that I wish you to close in on General Wright and cover his right and send a division, Cutler's to Wright, and Griffin's to Hancock. I have sent Major Duane to examine General Wright's position and the ground to cover his flank and to communicate with Humphreys and yourself.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

General MEADE:

I have about got General Cutler's division clear of my line, and twenty minutes ago the head of the line began marching to the left. I shall send General Cutler's whole division. There is some little delay in getting the forces together after the assault.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

I have sent [all] of General Cutler's division, and am still holding a threatening attitude to the enemy's line here. It may be of no use to hold this line, and if you want it abandoned, and all move down to the left, I can soon do so, as I now have everything in hand. General Humphreys went to find something more definite about what should be done. Shall I move, with the rest of my force, away from here, leaving only a small force to watch the right, or wait further developments?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

TALLEY'S HOUSE, *May* 12, 1864—3.10 p. m.

Capt. A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: In relation to the battery opposite this place, previously reported to you, I have further to report that the enemy appear to be throwing up earth-works in front of their guns. The spot is the same as that yesterday shelled from this place by Colonel Tidball. The battery in question may be intended either to enfilade our lines or to command the positions now held by the enemy, in case of assault by us.

I remain, &c.

C. F. ADAMS, JR.,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—7.50 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Comdg. Fifth Corps, at General Hancock's or Wright's Hdqrs.:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Wright is ordered to return to you the divisions of Cutler and Griffin. He directs that you take a position with your corps on the right of General Wright, extending in the direction of your headquarters this morning so as to cover the roads leading to our rear in that vicinity. The line occupied should be intrenched, and should be the shortest practicable, so as to afford the greatest number of men available to meet an attack to-morrow, should one be made. The army will not resume the offensive to-morrow. Please inform the adjutant-general where your headquarters are as soon as selected, so that they may be connected by telegraph.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding Division, Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions from headquarters Army of the Potomac, you will please return, with your division, to General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

MAY 12, 1864.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: Some 3 prisoners, of the Fifteenth Georgia Regiment, with a rebel lieutenant, were brought here, and I have sent them to General Meade. The officer says that they expected us to fall back to-day; that they are acting only on the defensive; have been on quarter rations, and no forage for their horses.

Very respectfully,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—5 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

General Hancock has carried the enemy's lines on the left, and taken many prisoners. Have your command in readiness to advance,

if possible, and press forward your skirmishers where it is possible. Hancock has taken prisoners nearly all of Johnson's division, including the generals. Let the men know it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—Get possession of the enemy's intrenchment as soon as possible. I think he must evacuate it in your front. What I mean is, find out as soon as possible. If he does, press your skirmishers up to it.

G. K. W.

(Copy to other division commanders.)

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—6.30 a. m.

We may expect an order to advance our line at any moment. Have your troops in readiness to move out in line of battle, preceded by a strong skirmish line, to draw the enemy's fire. Let the main line make the charge after the first volley of the enemy. Send a staff officer to these headquarters to receive the order and convey it direct to you.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

(To division commanders.)

CIRCULAR, No. 44. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864—7.15 a. m.

The following news is just received: Hancock's Second Corps has this morning captured the whole of Johnson's division with 4 general officers, 15 guns, and 4,000 prisoners. The troops should know of the above success of our arms.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPOTSYLVANIA, *May* 12, 1864—12.30 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

The enemy are falling back on our extreme right. Watch the very first indication of their leaving their intrenchments in front of your skirmishers. Report to me.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you fire a few shots with your batteries for a diversion to the attack of the Second Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Spotsylvania Court-House, May 12, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

General Meade repeats in most peremptory manner the orders* to attack at once with your whole force. Do it. Don't mind consequences. Close in toward General Cutler on your right. I will send you the first troops I can get. Let your right advance with General Cutler.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS.
Spotsylvania Court-House, May 12, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

Send General Bartlett to continue your line to the left, forming in but a single line, so as to relieve any troops of General Wright in the breast-works. It may be they have already been taken out of the line. Do it at the double-quick.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
First Division, Fifth Army Corps:

Move your command back at once to the hill where my headquarters have been for several days. Acknowledge receipt to me at General Meade's headquarters.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 12, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

You will move your division back so as to arrive near my headquarters before daylight—that is, at 4 a. m. We are to take up a new line for our right flank, and remain quiet to-morrow, if the enemy will let us, and intrench again. I give you a sketch† on opposite side.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See Humphreys to Warren, 9.15 a. m., p. 663.
† Not found.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., FIFTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864—7.20 a. m.

[Capt. C. B. MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:]

CAPTAIN: I have pushed my skirmishers on the right of the line to the Massaponax without resistance. In my front, however, I find a strong line. The cavalry outposts and patrols seem to be very vigilant on the road leading in upon our right flank.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. J. BARTLETT,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 12, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: My line advanced to the edge of the woods and a short distance beyond, when a fire of canister and musketry opened upon them and drove them back. My line is just in the edge of the woods. When Cutler advances I will charge again.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 12, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD:

The orders are peremptory to charge the enemy's intrenchments at once with all your force. Do it. It is but a repetition of my orders.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I have sent you word if you cannot assault, to send out to me Colonel Coulter's brigade. Hold your line with the Pennsylvania Reserves.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

Do not fail to advance with General Cutler, if he does. He reports the right of his line passing over your troops.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864—10.45 a. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: My line now occupies its old position. Coulter's brigade has returned to its position. The battery I reported to you as being established on my right, would enfilade so completely the

position I gained that I have fallen back to the rifle-pits. My skirmishers are 100 yards in advance of where I was last night. The left of my line advanced with General Cutler for the third time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD.

MAY 12, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: General Cutler's line advanced after my line was repulsed. I am on his right and join the Seventh Indiana, which was driven back.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD.

MAY 12, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

The enemy is falling back on our right. Watch him closely in your front, and if you see the battery withdraw, or any indications of having left a weak force in the breast-works, try again to take them. Press them with skirmishers.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864—12.50 p. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have taken personal charge of the picket-line. The battery has been withdrawn down a little ridge, so that it can be loaded and run into battery out of fire of my sharpshooters. The muzzles are plainly visible. The enemy's sharpshooters fire at any one who shows his head. I can see their men occasionally above their breast-works. I had no opportunity to report to you that the enemy advanced upon my line just at dawn this morning, after the Second Corps brigade had been relieved. They came to the breast-works, where they were driven back.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 12, 1864.

General CRAWFORD:

Leave only a skirmish line up in your works, and bring the balance of the division down here. I want you to relieve Griffin at once.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

Relieve General Griffin's men by putting yours in the place of them in the breast-works, quick.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864—5 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

You will maintain your present line till further orders. You will also assume control of the heavy artillery battalion on your right, and the skirmish line under Colonel Herring. Lieutenant-Colonel Bankhead will remain with you to assist you, and explain the situation of these troops. General Bartlett has also left a small skirmish line on your left, in front of where he was stationed. There is a section of artillery of the Sixth Corps at the place where our breastworks cross the road. When you leave here give them warning. Captain Stewart, Fifth [5] Battery, will report to you.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General CUTLER:

General Meade reiterates his order to move on the enemy regardless of consequences.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864—10.40 a. m.

General CUTLER:

Report to me in writing if you think your troops cannot carry the position in their front.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN:

My brigade commanders report they cannot carry the works. They are losing badly, and I cannot get them up the hill.

Respectfully,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 12, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General CUTLER:

I want to relieve your line by extending General Griffin to the right. Leave your skirmish line in its most advanced position. As fast as your brigades are relieved send their commanders to me.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 12, 1864—12 m.

General CUTLER:

As soon as your division is in hand move toward our left, and report with your command to General Wright.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

The officer taking this will guide you.

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General CUTLER,
Fourth Division, Fifth Army Corps:

Move your command back to the hill where my headquarters were by the same road you came. Take the Maryland Brigade with you, and what are not in the lines, at once, and bring the rest when relieved. Acknowledge the receipt of this and the hour of starting.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN:

Your message is received. The Maryland Brigade will start at once, the remainder of the command as soon as relieved.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 12, 1864—7.55 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: Wright very heavily engaged in the front. A new brigade being put in beyond the wooded ridge. In front of Mott's old position is an open space, and beyond this the troops are engaged. Our troops are cheering, and I think the firing recedes.

THEODORE LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

N. B.—I cannot find General Wright. No one seems to know where he is, but I am well in front, near General Neill. Bullets thick.

MAY 12, 1864—8.45 a. m.

[General MEADE:]

GENERAL: General Wright is in support of General Hancock with his two movable divisions, except three brigades, which overlap on the right. He has sent to General Warren for any disposable troops to cover his right. General Russell is hard pressed on the right; General Neill going to him. I am with General Wright.

THEODORE LYMAN.

MAY 12, 1864—10.25 a. m.

[General MEADE:]

GENERAL: Kitching's brigade is up and formed far in the rear, in two lines, on the edge of the woods, just in the open space. Our line holds on well. I see no stragglers coming back.

THEODORE LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

Ricketts is coming up.

MAY 12, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: General Ricketts is rapidly forming in three lines, and will go in on the right of General Wright. The fire is not so heavy and we hold the pits. They do not shell us now.

THEODORE LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

Major-General MEADE.

Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I sent the following to General Wright and received the reply below:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—12.15 p. m.

General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

Is there a point of attack near you which would promise success if the whole of the Fifth Corps was put in? If so, the corps can be withdrawn entirely from the right and sent there, abandoning this part of the line altogether. Let me know.

By command of General Meade:

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

I think a large force might carry the lines at this point. I have not the force to do it.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—1 o'clock.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Griffin's division is needed to enable us to hold the position at the Angle in the enemy's works. My troops there are constantly pressed, and General Hancock cannot spare me a man. I think, from reports just received, that it would be dangerous to withdraw Griffin. Fire must be maintained constantly to keep down the enemy, and the troops now there should be relieved, having been in all day.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: General Ricketts' skirmishers have struck the enemy's infantry skirmishers in heavy force. They drove our men a few yards back, but they recovered and now hold without advancing. The country is reported as very thick.

Respectfully,

THEODORE LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have put Cutler's division to relieve a part of my troops. With the rest of the Fifth Corps and a part of mine, a column of assault can be formed, which I am confident can carry the enemy's line at the Angle. Major-General Hancock agrees with me in this opinion.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864—3.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In answer to your dispatch of 2.45 and that of Major-General Meade of same hour, I have to say that I think that both Griffin and Crawford should be used in the assault with the few troops I have available. Cutler's division has been put in the first line to relieve exhausted troops who have been firing all day, and can't be used for this purpose The column should be a strong one to make it certain of success.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864—4 30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The right of my Third Division rests near the morass. I do not think it very strong, but it is as secure as I can make it, unless I use the troops that have just come up. The morass I speak of lies in front of what was my center when I occupied the rifle-pits on our original line.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

P. S.—If we don't assault I shall extend my right.

H. G. W.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Generals Griffin's and Crawford's divisions are not so strong as I supposed, not exceeding 5,000. I can't furnish more than 1,000 more, perhaps, and I doubt whether that is enough to insure success. I shall, however, make all the preparations and assault, or not, according to my discretion and that of General Hancock, unless positively ordered. General Burnside has been hard pressed, and may be again, and we may be assaulted ourselves. The column will be available to repulse either if we don't assault ourselves. What I fear most is a counter assault if ours fails. Both General Hancock and myself are intrenching in rear of our position with a view to this.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864—5.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I have decided not to make the assault for the reasons given in previous dispatch—those reasons being, not that it might not succeed, but in view of the disaster which would possibly follow a failure; also the want of a sufficient available and suitable force to insure a reasonable prospect of success. I shall abandon entirely my old position of yesterday, and extend my present right to the morass in front of it. This, with Griffin's column and some relieved troops, who have been fighting all day, are all the reserve I have. General Hancock desires me to say that he fully concurs in the views I have expressed. I shall make a return on my right with what force I can collect.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General WRIGHT:

Your dispatch abandoning attack received and approved. Rectify your lines and connect with Warren, keeping the Fifth Corps as far as practicable together and on your right.

MEADE.

Communicate to Warren and Humphreys and prepare to rearrange the right flank.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864.

General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

It was understood this evening on your visit here that Cutler was to be relieved and returned to General Warren. How about this?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—11 p. m.

General WRIGHT, *Commanding Sixth Corps:*

Your dispatch received. The major-general commanding directs me to say that the Fifth Corps has been under fire all day, too; that they were sent to you not to relieve your troops nor to hold your line, but to form a column of attack, which has been abandoned. These troops are necessary to hold your right flank and prevent your being taken in reverse. Whatever disposable force Warren can collect, after holding the shortest possible line on your right, will be held near you to meet desperate emergencies. I wish to leave to the commander of the Fifth Corps the selection of that disposable force. Can you not shorten your line? Please answer immediately, as General Warren is waiting here to learn the reply.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

In reply to yours of 11 p. m., I have to say that I can't shorten my lines a single foot, and as General Hancock cannot, in his opinion, extend to his right to fill the space I relieved him from to-day, I shall have to hold the position at the Angle of the enemy's lines, which is constantly contested, and where an incessant fire is kept up with my own troops, which have been under fire since they came into the position this morning. I don't think I can connect with General Hancock without such of Cutler's troops as are now on this line, and I would urgently request that at least those be left till I can readjust my lines. Even then I shall have to hold this important point of our line with an inadequate force, in case the enemy should attack in column.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 12, 1864—5.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Hancock reports that he has carried the enemy's first and second line of works and taken many prisoners. He is still pressing on.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

CAPTAIN:* Tell General Burnside the battery will be attended to at once. Sixth Corps just going in on our right, and General Hancock would like to know just where General Burnside is.

MORGAN,
Chief of Staff.

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* To whom addressed does not appear.

GENERAL HANCOCK'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

I am in the inside of second line of enemy's works. Hurry forward, or I may be driven back.

HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 12, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

General Hancock is pushing forward vigorously. He has captured 3 generals. Push on with all possible vigor.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff.

NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864. (Received 6.40 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Our forces are fully 2 miles in advance of our position this morning and driving the enemy all the time. Hope to make junction with Hancock soon. We have captured some prisoners.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HANCOCK'S HEADQUARTERS, *May* 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

We are holding the line of works of enemy. Owing to the great confusion of corps after the assault, it is being reorganized as rapidly as possible.

MORGAN,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

I hope you will connect your right with my left. It is the only weak point I have, and that is very weak until you closely connect.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864—7.10 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

Hancock has captured about 3,000 prisoners, among them 3 general officers, and also about 15 guns. Push your troops so as to keep up the connection with Hancock. Wright is now attacking and Warren is in readiness to push in also.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864—7.40 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

We had established communication with General Hancock; it was broken on the advance. We are seeking to make connection now.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

General MEADE:

I have notified General Burnside that he will have to allow your two corps to use a portion of his artillery until theirs can be got up.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 12, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Push the enemy with all your might; that is the way to connect. We must not fail.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—8 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

The enemy are making a furious attack upon my right. You should push forward and attack vigorously if possible.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Potter sends in word he has made connection with Second Corps.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Connection with General Hancock is established.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 12, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK,
Aide-de-Camp, General Burnside's Headquarters:

How are things progressing on the left? Tell Burnside to push hard with everything he can bring into the fight. If his Provisional Brigade is not in bring that up.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

MAY 12, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Move one division of your troops to the right to the assistance of Hancock, and push the attack with the balance as vigorously as possible. Warren and Wright have been attacking vigorously all day. See that your orders are executed.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 12, 1864—1.25 p. m.

Colonel BABCOCK,
Burnside's Headquarters:

Our whole force is now engaged. If General Burnside cannot hold his present line he must shorten it, strengthening his center and right toward General Hancock.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 12, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that such disposition of your colored troops and cavalry be made as best to cover the main supply train. He does not deem it necessary to hold the Spotsylvania and Fredericksburg road, if that would absorb any but an insignificant part of your present command, as the three white divisions and Provisional Brigade must be used where they are. You should to-night open a wagon road to connect with Hancock's left.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 12, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The Fifth Corps is now moving up to the Sixth and will together form a heavy column of assault. Keep your division commanders on the lookout to take advantage of any weakening on your front to meet it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 12, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: Your right does not connect with my left. Do you intend to connect your line of battle with me to-night? I am afraid the enemy may break through.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864—6.10 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

You will strengthen your position so as to hold it against any attack of the enemy, and give your men as much rest as you can consistent with your work in fortifying your position. Act on the offensive with your artillery during to-morrow and annoy the enemy all you can. Send all the prisoners you have to Tabernacle Church that they may go to Fredericksburg to-night by the same escort that accompanies the prisoners being sent by General Meade from here.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 12, 1864—6.20 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Do you not think there may be danger of the enemy moving on your position and attacking you in the morning? If so, would you not be strengthened by throwing your left back on to the Ny River and removing your artillery to the east side? I want you to make your position secure. Answer as soon as possible. Let the regiment whose time is up go as escort to your prisoners.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS.
May 12, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have the honor to report that my troops occupy their old line of works. We had withdrawn to this side of the Ny, but on receipt of order have re-established our former line without opposition.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General, Commanding Ninth Corps.

MAY 12, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The prisoners will not be sent from here until to-morrow morning. Have yours meet them at Tabernacle Church.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 12, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE. *Comdg. Ninth Corps:*

You will notify your division commanders to have their men woke up and under arms by 3.30 o'clock to-morrow morning, for it is not unlikely the enemy will take the initiative; and, if so, your position he will most probably attack.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 12, 1864—9.05 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 6.30 is received and will receive immediate attention. I will make more definite arrangements as soon as I hear from you the time and route the troops will take, which will be brought, I presume, by one of your aides-de-camp.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLCOX:

(To be sent from line to line.)

Dispatch from General Grant states Landrum house taken; also, 30 guns and 7,000 prisoners, General Johnson among them. Send word to all men in all lines. Let them cheer.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

S. N. BENJAMIN,
Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS 109TH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
In the Field, May 12, 1864.

General WILLCOX:

GENERAL: Will you send us re-enforcements immediately, or give us an order to withdraw. Major Moody and Captain Schwenk, with detachments of Twelfth [Twenty-seventh] and Twentieth Michigan and Fiftieth Pennsylvania and a portion of my regiment are here. They will be captured, I am afraid, but we will hold as long as possible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. S. CATLIN,
Lieutenant-Colonel 109th New York Vols., Comdg.

P. S.—We are out of ammunition.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO, *Comdg., &c., Chancellorsville:*

GENERAL: Major-General Meade requests that you will post guards at suitable points to arrest stragglers from this army that may

attempt to proceed to Fredericksburg, and that you will send such men to the provost-marshal general at these headquarters that they may be returned to their regiments. There are with the supply trains of this army near Tabernacle Church, as guard, some 3,000 dismounted cavalry, who can be employed in arresting stragglers, and used in sending them here. The commander of the dismounted cavalry has been instructed to acquaint you with the strength of his command, its location, and to furnish such guards for bringing forward stragglers as may be required.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAVALRY PICKET, *May* 12, 1864.

[General BURNSIDE:]

GENERAL: The rebel battery on our extreme left has very little support. It is now in the rear of the house where it commenced firing. There is none of the enemy moving toward [us]. There are about 75 rebel cavalry on our extreme left.

General, I remain, your obedient servant,

JACOB H. DEWEES,
Major Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER DISMOUNTED CAVALRY:

The commanding general directs that you acquaint Brigadier-General Ferrero, who has charge of the general duty of guarding the supply trains, with the number of dismounted cavalry with the trains, so that there may be co-operation with the train guards.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Maj. M. H. BEAUMONT,
First New Jersey Cavalry, Comdg. Dismounted Men:

SIR: I am directed by the major-general commanding to inform you that Brigadier-General Patrick, provost-marshal-general, has been authorized to call upon you for such assistance in the way of guards for prisoners as he may require. You will please furnish the details as called for.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—3 p. m.

Maj. A. H. KROM,
Fifth New York Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you furnish General Patrick, provost-marshal-general, such assistance as you have at your command toward guarding the rebel prisoners now in our possession at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH NEW YORK CAVALRY:

SIR: The commanding general directs that on being relieved by the provost-marshal-general from the duty of escorting prisoners to Belle Plain, you report with the mounted men of your command at these headquarters. The dismounted men you will leave with the trains.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864—10.15 p. m.

The Cavalry Corps will march to-morrow morning in the following order: First, Second Division, General Gregg commanding; second, Third Division, General Wilson commanding; third, First Division, General Merritt commanding.

The Second Division will take up its line of march for Savage Station, via New Bridge, at 7 a. m. to-morrow. The Third and First Divisions will follow the Second Division in the order above mentioned. They will start at such an hour as will bring them in proper order, well closed up in rear of the Second Division. Division commanders will see to-night that their men have the amount of ammunition required by orders from these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Sheridan:
JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Washington, May 12, 1864.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army:

SIR: In further compliance with the directions of General Halleck to report to you as to the progress of the pontoon bridge ordered to Fredericksburg, I have to state that the bridge left here, as I had

expected, and, by a report from my officer, Captain Lubey (received about 10 o'clock last night), I learn it reached the depot at Belle Plain at about 4.30 a. m. yesterday, when Captain L. received the following order:

Capt. T. LUBEY:

CAPTAIN: The pontoon bridge will not be unloaded until after 100 teams are loaded with forage and sent to the front.

By command of General Ingalls:

J. E. JONES,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

As Captain Lubey states the loading of these teams would require all yesterday and to-day, he has been endeavoring to construct a pontoon wharf (of 300 feet) and expedite the movements of his trains by all the means in his power, but I fear he has not left there yet, if he will be able to to-day even.

Under these circumstances, and with the reports and rumors I hear of other of our pontoons being at Fredericksburg, which I know are with the army and could before this have been there, I must suppose one or more bridges may be already laid there, of which the Department may have certain knowledge; and, if this is so, I would respectfully suggest the rescinding of the order to send this bridge, and that it should return here, to be held with the other bridging under the former orders, by which the animals—some 240 in number—can at once be returned to the Quartermaster's Department, where I understand they are much wanted. If this should receive an immediate decision, it is probable an order would intercept Captain Lubey before he shall have made the land journey from Belle Plain, so unnecessary if other bridges are down at Fredericksburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BELLE PLAIN, *Tuesday Morning, May* 12, 1864.

Capt. CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that last evening I received the following order:

OFFICE OF DEPOT QUARTERMASTER,
Belle Plain, Va., May 11, 1864.

Capt. T. LUBEY,
Fifteenth New York Engineers, Commanding Detachment:

SIR: The pontoon-boats and bridge material now at this place under your charge are required here. A bridge has already been constructed at Fredericksburg, and no more at present needed at that place. You will therefore remain with your men and material at Belle Plain to aid the quartermaster's department.

Respectfully, &c.,

P. P. PITKIN,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster, in charge of depot.

The inclosed communication* from General Halleck, and directed to General Benham, was handed to me by Captain Pitkin, who said it was General Halleck's desire, if General Benham was not present,

* Not found, but see Halleck to Benham, May 11, p. 633.

that some officer of his command should open it, which I did. I then commenced immediately to move the pontoons and material farther down the river, and at 1 o'clock this morning we had ready for the quartermaster's department a floating dock of 360 feet long. I am anxious to return to the engineer depot, as the general desired, but for the present Captain Pitkin says he wants me here.

I am, sir, respectfully, &c.,

TIMOTHY LUBEY.

Capt., Fifteenth N. Y. Vol. Engineers, Comdg. Detach.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 12, 1864.

[Capt. CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General:]

DEAR CAPTAIN: I forward by one of my men a report and a letter from General Halleck to General Benham. You can see how I was ordered. I have given all the aid and comfort I can to the quartermaster's department. All here is confusion at present. I am very anxious about the mules and trucks, as I understand we will not remain here longer than a few days, when we will move from here by water. This is all I can learn. I am thinking of sending all of them back to Washington. Please tell Captain Robbins to send me some carpenters' tools, as I have not one. I am most anxious to get back to the depot (and will do so if I can), as I don't much like being aide to the quartermaster's department.

Truly, yours,

T. LUBEY.

Aquia Creek is not to be opened, so I understand.

T. L.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. HEADQUARTERS, *Belle Plain, May* 12, 1864.

The undersigned assumes command of all troops at this place and Fredericksburg, together with all troops in their vicinity. All communications will be addressed to Capt. R. L. Orr, acting assistant adjutant-general.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 1. HEADQUARTERS, *Belle Plain, May* 12, 1864.

I. Colonel Byrnes, commanding Provisional Brigade, will leave at Belle Plain one regiment. Colonel Dushane, commanding the Provisional Battalion, composing the Maryland troops, will guard the road between Belle Plain and Fredericksburg. On his arrival at Fredericksburg he will ascertain if there is a sufficient guard there; if not, he will detail a portion of his command and proceed with the remainder with all the men and officers who are ordered to proceed to their regiments. Colonel Byrnes will start to-morrow, May 13, by

daylight, or as soon thereafter as practicable. Colonel Pitkin, quartermaster, will furnish transportation, and the post commissary the subsistence as is absolutely necessary.

* * * * * * *

By order of Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie:

R. L. ORR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 12, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER,
Commanding, &c., Fredericksburg:

SIR: The commanding general directs that you use your best exertions to arrest all stragglers from this army that may be found at Fredericksburg, and such men will be sent to the provost-marshal-general at these headquarters to be returned to their proper commands.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 12, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR:

The Secretary of War directs that officers and men, deserters, who have come up with the wounded be placed under a strong guard and sent back to the Army of the Potomac and reported to General Grant. Any officer who has so deserted will be sent back in irons. The Massachusetts colored regiment for General Butler should be sent off as soon as possible. General Rucker reports transports waiting.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR:

The instructions in regard to arresting and sending back to Army of the Potomac officers and men relate to deserters. An officer or man very slightly wounded, but not a deserter, may come up "without sufficient cause" and should be sent back, but not as a prisoner

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR:

The Secretary of War concurs with us in the inexpediency of keeping open the railroad to the Rappahannock. You will, there-

fore, draw in all your forces to Bull Run and Occoquan, and send the Irish Brigade to Belle Plain to General Abercrombie, to be forwarded by him to the Army of the Potomac.

H. W. HALLECK.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 12, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR,
Commanding Military Defenses, Washington, D. C.:

In consequence of all the lighters at this place being used for the convenience of the wounded, the troops under my command were unable to land until this morning at 11 o'clock. All the troops that can be spared will be sent forward immediately.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE.
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS.
Washington, D. C., May 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General BRIGGS,
Alexandria:

Unless instructed to the contfary, send all officers belonging to the Army of the Potomac reporting to you to report to General Abercrombie, at Belle Plain, to be forwarded to their regiments. Send recruits to the front, when equipped, without further orders.

Very respectfully,

J. H. TAYLOR.
Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SAINT MARY'S, MD., *May* 12, 1864.

G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

The gun-boats in the Rappahannock have exploded several torpedoes. Picked up four safely near the mouth of the river, and are working on.

F. H. PARKER.

[MAY 12, 1864.—For Butler to Stanton, 3.30 p. m., see p. 11.]

WASHINGTON CITY, *May* 12, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

General Meade has transmitted the following telegram* from Major-General Sheridan, commanding the Cavalry Corps. We have no intelligence as to the operations of the Army of the Potomac later than 8 o'clock yesterday.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

* See Sheridan to Meade, May 10, p. 615.

WASHINGTON, *May* 12, 1864—3.40 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
James River, Va.:

The Fifth Massachusetts Colored Regiment (about 1,200 men) and the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, Colonel Abbot (about 1,800 men), have been ordered to report to you at Bermuda Landing. Colonel Abbot's regiment has been designated by General Grant for a special service, and, in the mean time, will be used by you to hold your defenses, but will not be sent into the field, as the lieutenant-general may, at any moment, order them to be detached for special service.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 12, 1864—11.20 a. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

GENERAL: Yesterday morning Kemper's, Clarke's,* Ransom's, and one other brigade left Petersburg and encamped last night just 4 miles this side. This morning they moved at daylight up turnpike toward Richmond. Yesterday General Hoke passed up on north side of turnpike toward Dr. Howlett's, very probably the same that was reported by pickets last night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

OLD PIKE, *May* 12, 1864—12.25 p. m.

General BUTLER:

I have just received your dispatch of 11.30 a. m. I understand from it that all the troops you mention are now in Smith's front. I think he must have engaged their rear guard. Ames is in position and Terry coming up. I inclose dispatch just received from my signal officer on Dr. Howlett's house.

Your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's Va., May 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Comdg. First Division, Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold two of the strongest brigades of your command, with two batteries, in readiness to support a movement in front, to march in light marching order with two days' cooked rations. It is not expected that they will be called on to go far.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Captain, Forty-seventh New York Vols., A. A. A. G.

*See Farquhar to Smith, May 12, 11 a. m., p. 689.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 12, 1864.

Col. H. M. PLAISTED,
Eleventh Maine Volunteers, Comdg. Third Brigade:

COLONEL: Pursuant to instructions from corps headquarters, the brigadier-general commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness to support a movement in front. The men will be in light marching order, with two days' cooked rations. It is not expected that they will be called on to go far.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that a white man (a cripple) whom I have conversed with, reports that yesterday large bodies of infantry were passing in the road from Petersburg toward Chester Court-House. This information is corroborated by colored men, who have been brought in to me. I send this information, believing it to be correct.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Walthall Junction, May 12, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Your instructions of 7.20 a. m. have just been received. I shall send immediately 200 cavalry (colored) to connect with the troops on my right. I shall have a patrol on the railroad and another on the pike. Everything is quiet in my front.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
May 12, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps d'Armée:

SIR: From prisoners we learn that yesterday Kemper's, Ransom's Colonel Clarke's (Twenty-fourth North Carolina), and another brigade left Petersburg. At daybreak this morning they moved and marched up the turnpike toward Richmond. Yesterday morning

General Hoke passed up road on north side of turnpike toward Dr. Howlett's with one brigade, possibly the same that was reported by pickets last evening.

By order of General Butler.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. U. FARQUHAR,
Captain, &c.

MAY 12, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Can you order a part of Colonel West's command over to cut the Danville road? The rebels still have that line of communication. I am at the Junction moving on Swift Creek, where the rebels under Ransom are fortifying.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Do you wish me to understand from Farquhar's note that I am only to feel the enemy, or do you desire me to move ahead? General Turner has just joined our line.

Very respectfully,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

IN THE FIELD,
May 12, 1864—12.30 p. m.

[General SMITH:]

GENERAL: I sent what Farquhar wrote in order that you might have all the information I have. From that I infer the enemy is in front, so that we are at liberty to press him. I have also sent dispatch from General Gillmore's signal station. I think, unless you see something that I do not, press him vigorously.

Respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: I have given the orders for an attack at once. Should there be no demonstration from Petersburg or no prospects of danger from that direction, I would request that a portion of General Ames' force be sent to me at this point as I have no reserve. My troops are all in the lines.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 12, 1864.

Major-General SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

A courier from General Beauregard has just been captured with dispatches for General Hoke, whom he was to find on the Drewry's Bluff road. He came out from Petersburg on the turnpike, and states that he met about a regiment of cavalry going toward Petersburg this morning. He further states that there are but few troops now in Petersburg, but that many have passed through there within the past few days.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 12, 1864.

General BUTLER:

General Turner will have to march back across the creek to get to General Gillmore and then march around to him. His men are very much fatigued. Under these circumstances do you think he can make the march to-night to be of any assistance?

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864—1.30 a. m.

Major-General SMITH:

In compliance with orders from General Gillmore, I have the honor to report to you for instructions. My division will be ready to move at daylight. I would suggest that I have a company of cavalry assigned to my division; it will expedite my march under any circumstances one-half.

Respectfully,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 12, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have sent back one battery, but have retained my horse artillery on the plain, where I can use it to good advantage. Two or three regiments were seen about two hours ago in the direction of the enemy's lines moving from Drewry's Bluff toward the pike.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
On Turnpike, May 12, 1864.

General TURNER:

The general commanding desires you to move by the flank along the road upon which you were just after the general left Howlett's house, that is a road perpendicular to the one upon which your troops were. Move along by the flank till you connect with General Weitzel on the turnpike, without, however, unmasking the road upon which your troops moved to Howlett's house.

Respectfully,

N. BOWEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 12, 1864.

General TURNER:

General Smith desires you to withdraw your line. Shall rest the right near Howlett's, to cover the woods at that point, and the left to connect with General Weitzel.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

If you are engaged you will wait till matters quiet before drawing back. Please answer. There is a brigade to spare if it is required.

N. B.

MAY 12, 1864.

General TURNER:

General Smith wishes you to send your artillery back to near Howlett's. There is no use for it here.

Respectfully,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

GENERAL: Have received your dispatch and am now awaiting orders from General Butler. Hold your line as at present. If you have not covered the road well let me know. Send back your artillery by the road you proposed.

By command of Major-General Smith:

A. H. DUTTON,
Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 17. } *City Point, Va., May 12, 1864.*

I. Colonel Duncan, with two regiments of his brigade, the sections of Battery M and Battery B, artillery, and Captain Dollard's company of cavalry, will at once proceed to a point nearly opposite

General Smith's signal station, in the bight of Appomattox River, best commanding the opposite side; there he will throw up a small and strong work that may be easily held for the best communication with this point. He will fortify himself as speedily as possible, and hold it against any demonstration of the enemy. The troops will take three days' rations, 300 shovels and axes. Lieutenant Partridge, of the Signal Corps, will accompany the expedition.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. E. W. Hinks:

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FLAG-SHIP MALVERN,
James River, May 12, 1864—6 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 4 p. m. 13th. Received 6.50 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

No information from Richmond. Guerrillas keep contrabands from coming in. No change of situation unless the army moves forward this morning from its line between Point of Rocks, on the Appomattox, and Trent's Reach, on James River. Raining last night and to-day.

S. P. LEE,
Rear-Admiral, U. S. Navy.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 12, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
A. A. G., Hdqrs. Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

MAJOR: During the movements of our army in Virginia I fancy that the commanding general will have but little time to devote to thinking of the portion of his command in North Carolina. It may be gratifying to him, however, to hear that up to this time we have all been able to hold our own, and now that the pressure is a little over I shall devote myself to getting my forces into the shape in which they can be best used. The North Carolina regiments I shall establish at Beaufort and Morehead, a few companies at Macon. The families can be established at Beaufort. The town is protected by a line of intrenchments, and as soon as they feel secure they will take heart and, I trust, become effective. The matter of pay for these regiments I have arranged by getting the agent of the Treasury Department to loan to our paymaster an amount sufficient to pay them off, and thus they will be able to provide for their families. These men have not been paid for six months. The payment will be made to-day at Morehead.

I take it for granted that the calculations made for the army in Virginia are made upon the supposition that all orders tending to a re-enforcement of that army will be strictly obeyed. I shall therefore not hold the men who are ready to be transferred to the Navy, but forward them at once. There will be nearly 300 of these, all much needed to recruit our naval forces. Another dead weight is

the army of refugees and contrabands lately arrived, but we will shake this mass into something like order before long. Quite a large portion of the force now left here is that of the veteran volunteers, to whom the promises of furlough have not been made good. There is no end of complaint about this, and it requires a good deal of patience and coaxing to ke p the men willing. I shall appeal to their patriotism and inspire them with the belief that your campaign in Virginia will be short, decisive, and successful, and that the promises made to them will soon be fulfilled.

I have permitted myself to reason in this way about this present campaign, *i. e.*, that however the matter in Virginia may terminate, it may be a foot race to see who shall hold Eastern North Carolina. If the rebels come here, either after being driven from Virginia or after they have made a successful campaign there, we ought to be able to re-enforce as soon as they can get here. The rams from Wilmington came out a few days since and drove our blockading fleet out to sea, and they might attempt to come to Morehead. They surely could never get there if our naval force is vigilant, so I give myself no fear there. Hoping soon to hear of glorious success in Virginia,

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *May* 13, 1864.

Governor PARKER, *Trenton, N. J.:*

The brilliant success of the Army of the Potomac against the rebel army indicates that an increase of the force at this juncture for a short period might contribute greatly to the completion of General Grant's work and the speedy restoration of peace by the capture or destruction of the rebel forces. Congress has made provision for the employment of troops for a short term. The President desires to know whether your State could give us a militia force for 100 days, and what number, and within what time you could call it into the field. Will you honor me with a speedy answer?

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

MAY 13, 1864—6 a. m.
(Received 7 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *In the Field*
(Care of Colonel Hoffman, Belle Plain):

A dispatch has just been received from General Butler, dated in the field, near Chester Station, Va., May 12, 3.30 p. m.* He states that he is now pressing the enemy near Fort Darling, and has before him all the troops from North and South Carolina that have yet come up. A captured dispatch from Beauregard to General Hoke, commanding at Drewry's Bluff, states that Beauregard will join him as soon as the rest of his troops come up. General Gillmore is left to hold the intrenchments while Smith demonstrates upon Drewry's and the enemy's lines. General Kautz has been sent with cavalry

See p. 11.

force to cut the Danville railroad near Appomattox Station, and perhaps can advance on James River. Will do all I [he] can, but the country is a terrible one to operate in. Nothing has been heard from General Sherman since the dispatches sent to you yesterday, which stated him to be in front of Buzzard Roost waiting for Stoneman, and that McPherson has fallen back from Resaca to Snake Creek Gap. General Steele is at Little Rock, having whipped Kirby Smith and a superior force at Saline River. A boat reached Cairo yesterday with dates to May 2. All was quiet at Alexandria. Only a small force of the enemy in front of Banks, and re-enforcements going up the Red River to Banks. Canby left Cairo for Red River two days ago. He wanted Buell to be assigned him. But Buell thinks it degradation. May God bless you.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, *May* 13, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

I beg leave to recommend the following promotions to be made for gallant and distinguished services in the last eight days' battles, to wit: Brig. Gen. H. G. Wright and Brig. Gen. John Gibbon to be major-generals; Col. S. S. Carroll, Eighth Ohio Volunteers, Col. E. Upton, One hundred and twenty-first New York Volunteers; Col. William McCandless, Second Pennsylvania Reserves, to be brigadier-generals. I would also recommend Maj. Gen. W. S. Hancock for brigadier-general in the regular army. His services and qualifications are eminently deserving of this recognition.

In making these recommendations I do not wish the claims of General G. M. Dodge for promotion forgotten, but recommend his name to be sent in at the same time. I would also ask to have General Wright assigned to the command of the Sixth Army Corps. I would further ask the confirmation of General Humphreys to the rank of major-general. General Meade has more than met my most sanguine expectations. He and Sherman are the fittest officers for large commands I have come in contact with. If their services can be rewarded by promotion to the rank of major-generals in the regular army the honor would be worthily bestowed, and I would feel personally gratified. I would not like to see one of these promotions at this time without seeing both.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, May 13, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House:

GENERAL: Yours of 6.30 p. m. yesterday just received. We have already got under way at Belle Plain, in the river and on the road, not less than 10,000 men, and I hope to add 3,000 or 4,000 more within the next two days. Before receiving your dispatch I had ordered General Robert O. Tyler to go down in command of these troops.

We can also spare General Augur as soon as we get all the troops under way. At this moment he is most useful in organizing and getting them off. I have sent some 500 railroad operators and General [Benham] to Belle Plain to construct wharves and repair roads to Fredericksburg; there is much delay now in landing troops and stores. Transports are also short, but more have been ordered from Butler. I have sent all dismounted cavalrymen to Belle Plain as guards for prisoners of war. All Invalids are sent down for same purpose, and to guard depot and trains. The moment a militia regiment reaches Baltimore, Porter's heavy artillery, armed as infantry, will be sent to the front.

I ordered everything beyond Bull Run to be brought in, and the Irish Brigade to go to Belle Plain. General Abercrombie has been ordered to proceed in charge of that depot, with orders to push forward the troops and stores with all possible dispatch. I estimate that we shall have sent forward by Sunday night about 15,000 men—3,000 to Butler and 12,000 to Army of the Potomac. Possibly I may be able to collect more. You may be assured that no effort will be spared to re-enforce you. You have had some experience in this way before.

Nothing of importance from Butler or Sherman for the last two days. The former was strengthening his position and the latter was moving. * * * McPherson found Resaca too strongly fortified to attempt a *coup de main*. I wrote you yesterday most of the foregoing details, but you may receive this first. Your dispatch of the 7th did not reach me till this morning, being telegraphed from Alexandria. Perhaps it may be well to ascertain what the messenger was doing the intermediate time. I need not say how great is the general satisfaction at your success.

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, May 13, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: Since writing to you this afternoon I have obtained detailed reports of troops forwarded and to be forwarded by tomorrow evening to you and General Butler, viz:

Gone:	
Recruits, veterans, &c., for Army of the Potomac	4,300
Mounted Rifles, as infantry	1,000
12th U. S. Infantry	80
Warner's artillery, as infantry	1,550
Cavalry detachments, remounted	1,500
Regiments from Sandusky	1,250
107th Pennsylvania Volunteers	280
65th Pennsylvania Volunteers	250
Under orders:	
8th New York Artillery, as infantry	1,800
Irish Brigade	2,000
Morris' artillery, as infantry	1,800
Chaplin's artillery, as infantry	1,800
Whistler's artillery, as infantry	1,700
Turner's [Tannatt's] artillery, as infantry	1,700
	21,000

Troops sent to Belle Plain to guard prisoners, depot, roads, &c.:

Veteran Reserve Corps (gone)	1,200
Light battery (gone)	100
8th Illinois Cavalry (gone)	600
Dismounted cavalry (to go)	700
Railroad operatives (gone)	500
Engineer Brigade (gone), about	600
	3,700

Already sent to General Butler:

Abbot's artillery	1,800
Third Massachusetts Cavalry	1,200
	3,000

Making in all sent and to be sent within the next forty-eight hours to Belle Plain 24,500 men, and to General Butler 3,000; total, 27,500. I shall not fall much short of this, but is about as much as I can do. I have generally underestimated rather than overestimated.

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES.
May 13, 1864. (Received 6.30 p. m. 14th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Please telegraph General Butler to have the Richmond and Danville road cut if possible.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 13, 1864.

Colonel HOFFMAN,
Commissary-General of Prisoners:

Your communication* of this date is just received. I forwarded this morning all the prisoners then on hand, with directions for the commanding officer at Belle Plain to take charge of them and to communicate with the authorities at Washington as to the disposition to be made of them. On this subject I have nothing to add. We now have more prisoners to forward, which will probably be sent to-morrow. At present the road to Fredericksburg is open to travel, and whilst re-enforcements are arriving will easily be kept open. If you have men to put on the line between the army and Fredericksburg or Belle Plain, they might [*sic*] here, say 12 m. and 6 p. m. daily. If you have not got men for this purpose I can detail cavalry as they are required, and will communicate at all times when there is anything to communicate. All troops coming to the front should carry all the rations they can on their persons, but we want no more wagons here. I am now sending back an additional number of wagons after supplies. I want the very smallest number of men

* Not found.

possible retained at Belle Plain for duty. Stragglers and slightly wounded men going to the rear I think will form sufficient guard for prisoners and stores.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 13, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

From the dispatch just shown me by Captain Meade, I do not infer the enemy are making a stand, but simply covering a retreat, which must necessarily have been slow with such roads and so dark a night as they had last night. I think it advisable to push with at least three good divisions to see beyond doubt what they are doing.

Respectfully,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Armies of the United States:

I beg leave to present the following names of officers in this army for immediate promotion for distinguished services in the battles of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court-House: Brig. Gen. H. G. Wright, to be major-general (Sixth Corps); Brig. Gen. John Gibbon, to be major-general (Second Corps); Col. S. S. Carroll, Eighth Ohio Volunteers, to be brigadier-general (Second Corps); Col. E. Upton, One hundred and twenty-first New York Volunteers, to be brigadier-general (Sixth Corps); Col. W. McCandless, Second Pennsylvania Reserves, to be brigadier-general (Fifth Corps). I would also ask the influence of the lieutenant-general commanding to have confirmed the nomination, now pending, of Maj. Gen. A. A. Humphreys.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
Camp at Armstrong's, on the Ny, May 13, 1864.
(Received 8.15 a. m.)

General SETH WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to represent that all empty wagons have been ordered to Belle Plain for supplies, which have arrived there by water from Washington. On the return of the wagons (some have already come back) the command should have as many days' forage and subsistence as when we left Brandy. Captain Pitkin is in charge at Belle Plain, and has orders to load the wagons as they were at the commencement of this campaign; but the road to

that depot has become excessively heavy, which will delay the trains and decrease the weight of loads. I would suggest that General Benham should be ordered to repair the roads from Belle Plain to the heights this side. He is said to have men in the vicinity. Should this army remain long in this neighborhood, we must have other routes for supplies. I have sent an officer to see if light-draught vessels cannot ascend the Rappahannock to Fredericksburg with supplies. Two gun-boats should have arrived there yesterday. I have also directed an examination of the Aquia railroad.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brig. Gen., Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—8 [a. m.].

General HUMPHREYS:

Twenty prisoners brought in this a. m. were taken partly on the enemy's skirmish line but mostly in its rear, asleep in houses. They only know that their line has fallen back; don't know where. Their rations were out last night and were to have been issued last evening; but neither to those who were on the skirmish line nor to those who were with or near the main body of the troops were any rations issued. The prisoners represent four divisions: Anderson's, Rodes', Early's, and Wilcox's.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—[6 p. m.]

GENERAL: Knight reports he left Tinder's Mill on Po River 1½ miles below Corbin's Bridge at 3 p. m. Saw a small squad of rebel cavalry (15 men) on this side of the river at the mill. They recrossed on seeing our party. On other side of the Po, one-half mile below mill, on a large clearing, were 75 to 100 cavalry horses grazing. No indications of other force. Not as much rebel cavalry up that way to-day as yesterday. Our men went 2 miles beyond, some of our cavalry picketing in that direction, and saw nothing except as above.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

MAY 13, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE:

I have followed the line of troops at Anderson's plantation. Came on to rebel cavalry 2½ miles from Massaponax Creek. It consisted of two regiments. There is nothing at Hamilton's Crossing; the iron is all taken up from Fredericksburg to Hamilton's. The

bed of the road is good except in places where it has been converted into rifle-pits. The bridge across the creek at this place is burned. I shall graze my horses and try what I can find to-night.

Respectfully,

CLINE.

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. Brigadier-General Benham, commanding Engineer Brigade, will immediately have his troops repair the road from the landing at Belle Plain to the heights this side of that place. It is important that this road should be put in good order at once.

5. Three days' rations will be issued to the troops to-day from the supply trains, and the wagons thus emptied will be sent to Belle Plain accompanied by the division commissaries, who will see that they are reloaded with their proportion of subsistence stores, and the wagons will return to the army with as little delay as practicable. The issue ordered for to-day should, with the supplies already issued, ration the troops to include the 19th instant.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDER.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—5.45 p. m.

The following movements of troops are ordered for to-night: Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps, will move immediately after dark and will proceed in rear of the army, pass to the left of the Ninth Corps, and make his dispositions to assault the enemy on the road from Gate to Spotsylvania Court-House. Brigadier-General Wright, commanding Sixth Corps, will move in like manner at the same time, if roads can be found; if not, after the Fifth Corps and take position on the left of the Fifth Corps, and make his dispositions to attack on the road from Massaponax Church to Spotsylvania Court-House. These attacks will be made at 4 o'clock if practicable. Major-General Hancock will make his dispositions for attacking in his front, but will not do so till ordered, though he will in the mean time assume a threatening attitude. The trains, Artillery Reserve, &c., will be moved to Salem Church and vicinity. The telegraph wire will be taken up from Fifth Corps headquarters and will be extended from the Ninth Corps headquarters to the headquarters of the Fifth to-morrow. The chief engineer will furnish all information in his power, detail officers and guides if they can be procured, and take measures to repair or make roads for the artillery. The artillery of the corps should move by a route exterior to that on which the troops move.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MAY 13, 1864.—For Meade's orders communicating to his troops the congratulations of the Secretary of War, of May 12 (see p. 654), and congratulatory address of the commanding general to the soldiers of the Army of the Potomac, see Part I, p. 197.]

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

CHIEFS OF ARTILLERY, SECOND, FIFTH, AND SIXTH CORPS:

In obedience to circular from headquarters Army of the Potomac, of this date, your empty artillery ammunition wagons will be reported to the medical directors of your corps for the transportation of the wounded. When relieved of the wounded, they will be directed to proceed to Belle Plain at once, and report to the chief ordnance officer at that place, to be loaded with artillery ammunition. You will immediately report to Colonel Burton the number of empty artillery ammunition wagons so sent, in order that he may have them properly loaded at Belle Plain, to meet your wants.

By command of General Hunt:

JNO. N. CRAIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

Col. H. S. BURTON,
Commanding Artillery Reserve:

Your empty ammunition wagons, after being discharged from the duty of transporting the wounded, for which they will report to the medical director Sixth Corps, at Alsop's, will proceed to Belle Plain, under direction of an officer to be detailed by you, to load with artillery ammunition.

I have ordered to Belle Plain 6,000 solid shot, 5,000 shrapnel, 1,800 solid shot (12-pounder), and a supply of 3-inch and 10-pounder ammunition and 12-pounder canister. It was ordered on two different days. Let your wagons, and those of the artillery ammunition trains of the corps which are ordered to report to Lieutenant Schaff, ordnance officer at Belle Plain, load up first with 12-pounder ammunition, as above, and 1,500 rounds 10-pounder Parrott (no canister is needed); then, if there is room, load with 3-inch ammunition. We require all the above light 12-pounder ammunition, and more, to complete our supply, some 14,000 rounds in all; so let all the 12-pounder, except canister, be brought up. Let all this be done under direction of your ordnance officer, or the officer you may detail. We are much in want of light 12-pounder ammunition, and no time should be lost in bringing it up. Let your train move in connection with some other train, properly escorted. I inclose a letter to Lieutenant Schaff, ordnance officer at Belle Plain. Issue from your train whatever the corps require to fill their chests. I have author-

ized the chiefs of artillery to draw on you, and send the wagons, if necessary. Make out a statement of the amount of Coehorn mortar ammunition wanted to complete 50 rounds per mortar, and direct the ordnance officer to get it, if possible.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brig. Gen., Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864. (Received 2.15 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Cutler's division has been left to support yourself and Wright to-night. Is it not sufficient, and cannot Griffin go to the right, as ordered?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

I think General Griffin may go to the right. I sent a copy of your orders to that effect to him last night.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864—5.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Our sharpshooters have advanced 800 yards into the enemy's works without finding anybody except a prisoner, who states that the enemy have gone. General Russell occupies the Salient, where so much fighting occurred yesterday.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864. (Received 5.50 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding directs that you advance cautiously in pursuit of the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Army Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you push forward after the enemy, who is reported by General Wright as having abandoned the angle of the works in his front.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—6.20 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Our sharpshooters have advanced a mile without seeing the enemy. Stragglers report him as having fallen back to a new position 2 miles distant.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

What news from the front? Keep me advised and ask Wright to do the same.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—7 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I wish you would authorize at once the consolidation of the Third and Fourth Divisions of my corps, otherwise the Fourth Division will soon be of no service under its present commanders, who seem not to control their men.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—7.20 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding authorizes the consolidation of the Third and Fourth Divisions of your corps, as requested.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Near the left of our line General Barlow's skirmishers on arriving met a line of the enemy's skirmishers near General Burnside's line (supposed). General Birney's skirmishers on the right and front have met nothing yet.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—7.20 a. m. (Received 7.40 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your dispatch received. The major-general commanding desires you to send forward a force to ascertain where the enemy is and his position. As soon as it is ascertained what new position he has taken up our lines will be vacated and new ones will be occupied.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—8 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My skirmishers on the left, after advancing about a mile, were driven in by a strong skirmish line of the enemy on the right. The enemy have not been found, except their sharpshooters. General Gibbon is about advancing his division, and will find the line of the enemy.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Colonel Carroll's picket-line has just driven in the enemy's skirmishers and captured one color.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have found the position of the enemy, and will send you a sketch of it directly. Colonel Carroll was again wounded in the reconnaissance.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—9.15 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The advance brigade of General Gibbon's command, under Colonel Carroll, has come onto the enemy's line. From the reports thus far, I judge that they have a line of earth-works not many hundred yards in front of the position they held yesterday. I will send you accurate information as soon as I get it myself. Colonel Carroll has a compound fracture of the arm; so reported by an officer sent in from his brigade.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-Generals Hancock and Warren and Brigadier-General Wright, commanding the left, center, and right, respectively, will at once throw forward a division of their respective commands to feel the enemy's position. The other divisions will move within supporting distance of the advance, and corps commanders will take such artillery as will enable them to meet an attack of the enemy should he leave his works. The trains will remain for the present where they now are, and the telegraph lines will be extended to corps headquarters.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Wright sends a division in pursuit. Do you wish me to move the whole corps out of its lines or not. I have ordered the whole to move; but, as the troops will lose the day of rest and the lines will be vacated, I have thought it best to refer the matter to you, since finding General Wright sending only a part of his force.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HANCOCK'S HEADQUARTERS, *May* 13, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I would consider it safe if you can send me a brigade or two. I have all my troops on the front line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *May* 13, 1864—10.10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The indorsement of the commanding general upon the copy of the dispatch to you of 9.30 a. m.* respecting an advance, sent to Lieutenant-General Grant, is communicated to you for your information, it being as follows: "This is what I have done. It proposes no battle unless the enemy leaves his works and advances against us."

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Warren and Wright.)

HDQRS. SECOND ARMY CORPS, *May* 13, 1864—10.15 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have ordered a sketch of the enemy's position in my front, which I will send you when done. I judge that they have cut off the intrenchments on this flank by a retired line, and hold from General Warren's front across.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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*See circular at top of this page.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—11.20 a. m.

Colonel MORGAN,
Chief of Staff, Second Corps:

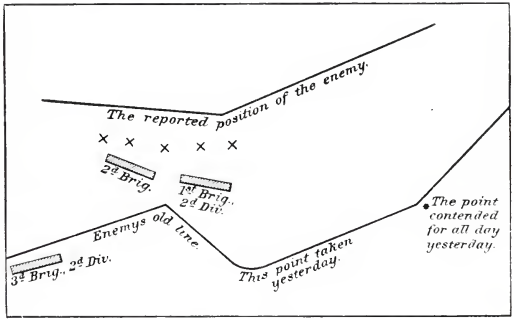
COLONEL: The general directs me to say that it is not his desire to advance his line of battle at present beyond the enemy's intrenchments, unless it is to cut off the intrenchments on a favorable line near the rifle-pits, so as to make our line parallel to theirs, if possible. We will then be better enabled to maneuver out of the enemy's sight, holding them with a strong line of skirmishers. If Barlow's and Birney's divisions are strong enough to hold the front line, you can leave Gibbon's division in reserve, so that one division can be in hand to maneuver. Fix it so that one division will be in reserve.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Maj Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac, Va.:

GENERAL: General Gibbon has pushed forward his division in front of the line occupied by the enemy yesterday. The enemy appear to occupy a line of rifle-pits which either existed before or have been constructed since as a secondary line. Their troops are seen moving both to the right and left in General Gibbon's front. The following sketch will show the position:



I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

The return made by the enemy is not more than from 300 to 500 yards from the Salient, notwithstanding the previous report as to the distance sharpshooters and skirmishers went.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK.
Commanding Second Army Corps:

The commanding general directs that you order up to repair roads the detachments of engineer troops attached to your command now with the supply trains at Tabernacle Church. Small guards may be left with the pontoon trains.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I would like to have an engineer officer to direct the construction of a line of works in front of the enemy's old line, cutting off the Salient which we took, so that there can be no dispute about them again. An intelligent engineer officer, who could take proper advantage of the accidents of the ground and work in reference to the enemy's present line, would be very valuable.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Please inform me when Wright's and Warren's pickets are to be relieved.

Your ob dient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK.
Commanding Second Corps:

Their pickets will remain as long as the enemy will allow them. They are not to be relieved.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Can you not ascertain precisely how many guns you have taken? I wish to issue an order, and I do not want to make a mistake.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

General MEADE:

It is not possible for me to tell at once what trophies have been captured by the corps. The artillery was taken to the rear, except some pieces loaned to artillery officers and 2 kept on the line. I suppose it would be safe to say 20. The colors are reported to be as many as 30; but I have had no time to collect them. It is now being done.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

General MEADE:

How many captured guns are there at your headquarters?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

General MEADE:

Eighteen pieces of artillery is the report; on investigation by Colonel Tidball.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—10.55 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: The number of cannon captured and taken possession of is 18. Nineteen colors are sent here, with 3 captured May 6, 15 yesterday, and 1 this morning. Five other colors, captured in the Wilderness May 6 are in possession of General Birney and with the train, but will be sent in as soon as he can communicate with it. General Birney promises 5 other colors which were captured by his colonels yesterday, and sent by them to the train; many others are in the possession of individuals, but it is impossible to collect them at once. One of the colors captured yesterday appears to be an English Union Jack.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS.
May 13, 1864—6 a. m.

Division and independent commanders will prepare their commands for an immediate advance:

By command of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS.
No. —. } *May* 13, 1864.

For the present the Third and Fourth Divisions of this corps will be consolidated into one command under Major-General Birney.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR. HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS.
May 13, 1864—10.05 a. m.

Division commanders will hold their commands in readiness to move to the support of the troops now feeling the enemy in case he should move from his works and attack.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS.
May 13, 1864—12.25 p. m.

Division commanders will cause the dead lying around their commands to be buried, and arms and equipments collected in piles for removal by details for this purpose.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS.
CIRCULAR. } *May* 13, 1864—11.30 p. m.

The troops will be under arms at 3.30 a. m. A column of assault will be prepared to advance if called upon to do so. It will consist of General Gibbon's division and two brigades of General Birney's, of good troops, in support. The troops will be kept well in hand to repel any attack, and to advance should success render it desirable. Major-General Birney will push forward a cloud of sharpshooters in front of our whole line, pressing the enemy back. The picket will be strong, and kept well to the front. Arms collected will be destroyed. The chief of artillery will be prepared to open at a signal upon the enemy's works. Major-General Birney will place a

command in the rifle-pits vacated by General Russell, repair the bridges leading to the Brown house, and slash timber to his right to the swamp. General Barlow will open good communications with General Burnside's rear.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to recommend that Col. John R. Brooke, Fifty-Third Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanding Fourth Brigade, of this division, and Col. Nelson A. Miles, Sixty-first New York Volunteers, commanding First Brigade, of this division, be promoted to be brigadier-generals of volunteers. The distinguished services which both these officers have repeatedly rendered, and the previous strong recommendations for this promotion which they have received, are well known to the War Department.

I consider that the part this division took in the assault of yesterday, the importance of the success of which cannot be too strongly stated, entitles it to receive some signal reward in the way of promotions, and the two officers above named are unquestionably those upon whom the honors should fall, because in addition to the services rendered by them yesterday they have very strong previous claims. The brigades commanded by these two officers constituted the first line of columns, and Colonels Brooke and Miles charged with their men, and by their gallantry, skill, and confidence powerfully contributed to the success of the assault and the battle.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

HDQRS. FOURTH BRIG., FIRST DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

Maj. J. HANCOCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that my brigade entered the works of the enemy, in which I counted sixteen pieces of artillery, and took an immense number of prisoners, among whom were Major-General Johnson and Brigadier-General Steuart. I also forward the reports of the regimental commanders who made the capture of colors and officers (generals). I also have the honor to forward the flag captured by the One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN R. BROOKE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 13, 1864—9.05 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

Colonel Carroll has just been brought in with his left arm shattered. He reports the enemy occupying their rifle-pits in his front.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

Received of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney eleven battle-flags of the enemy.

A. M. McCUNE,
Captain and Assistant Provost-Marshal, Second Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that if the enemy's sharpshooters become very troublesome, you put the sharpshooters of your command along the entire line. He desires that the numerical statement of casualties and the field return of your division called for last evening be furnished.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 13, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division, Second Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the corps directs me to say that he desires to see you at these headquarters as soon as it is convenient for you to come here.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
No. —. } *May* 13, 1864.

In the consolidation of the Third and Fourth Divisions, in pursuance of special orders from headquarters, Second Army Corps, of this date, the First Brigade, Fourth Division, will be known as the Third Brigade, Third Division; the Second Brigade, Fourth Division, as the Fourth Brigade, Third Division. Badges will re-

main as before. Brigadier-General Mott will resume command of his old brigade. All acting staff officers rendered supernumerary by the above orders will rejoin their regiments at once. Officers of the general staff rendered supernumerary will report at these headquarters for assignment. Field return of the effective strength present will be sent in to these headquarters at once.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. BIRNEY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

Major BIRNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: In compliance with circular just received, I have the honor to report that one rebel battle-flag fell into the hands of this brigade this morning. Captain Lee, acting aide-de-camp, of my staff, crossed the earth-works after the enemy had retired from our front, and found the flag above referred to lying between the dead bodies of 2 rebel colonels, immediately in front of the position occupied by the brigade yesterday.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. McALLISTER,
Colonel Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, Comdg.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—5 a. m.

General WARREN:

Whose name would you select from your corps for promotion to the rank of major-general? Answer at once.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

See no movement of the enemy on our right. Enemy have cavalry vedettes on south side of the Po River.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. CASTLE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—5.40 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Wright reports that the enemy has abandoned the works in his front. The commanding general directs that you push forward a force to ascertain whether they are in your front, and if not, push forward a large force in pursuit.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 13, 1864—7 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

The enemy have been strengthening their lines during the night, at the Court-House, and also show more men than last evening.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 13, 1864—7 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The enemy have gone from Hancock's and Wright's front. They are feeling toward him. It is reported to them that Lee has fallen back to another position about 2 miles to his rear. There is some force still in front of Burnside. The commanding general directs that you ascertain whether the enemy is still in your front, or if he has abandoned the works there also.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

The force of skirmishers I sent out on the road to Spotsylvania Court-House found a strong body apparently in the old place, with two pieces of artillery in sight near the road, the same that take all my lines of advance on the flank and rear to my right of it. It is also reported that the enemy deployed skirmishers well out to their left of mine along the Po last evening. Last night they pressed the skirmish line I left in front of the point I have assaulted several times. A wounded man came in this morning who has been lying in front of our lines. This morning he says the enemy questioned very pressingly about what force we had here in front of them. Any small force on my left front would have to leave at once if an advance was made from the left of the army.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—7.40 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I have sent you two dispatches by officers. The enemy has left the front of Wright and Hancock, but is found to have some force opposite Burnside. Hancock and Wright are pushing forward some force to ascertain where he is. The commanding general desires you to do the same. As soon as it is ascertained where the enemy has taken up a new position the line of the army will be moved up to him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—8 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Half an hour ago I sent you a report of affairs in my front. The enemy is still there with artillery in position enfilading my advance from a point on the road to Spotsylvania Court-House, just as he did yesterday and day before.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I want one name for immediate promotion to rank of brigadier-general. Send it to me at once. From what I have heard I think the Pennsylvania Reserves are entitled to some notice and acknowledgment.

GEO. G. MEADE.
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 13, 1864—8.15 a. m.

General MEADE:

Dispatch just received. Colonel McCandless deserves promotion. He is at present absent with a wounded arm.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy replied to us with about sixteen guns at 7.30 a. m., and kept it up for about twenty minutes. I have heard from the cavalry. They are down at Smith's Bridge, and have directed them to establish a picket-line along Ny River to connect with me.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

9.15 A. M.

General Crawford has pushed his pickets well out to the left, and found no enemy. Colonel Kitching sent a patrol 2 miles down the left bank of the Ny, but found none of our cavalry or the enemy.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864.

General MEADE:

I think General Griffin or General Ayres is the most competent soldier, but Generals Cutler and Crawford have behaved very handsomely with me. General Cutler is the only general officer left with

me in the old First Corps. General Robinson behaved well the day he was so severely wounded. He will hardly ever be fit for duty again.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864. (Received 9 a. m.)

General WARREN:

What is the total number of colors taken during this campaign by your corps?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Crawford took the battle-flag of the Twelfth Alabama on the evening of the 8th. This is the only one taken by the Fifth Corps.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I send you a dispatch just received from General Crawford. It relates to the part of the line we have tried so many times to take. All of General Crawford's ammunition, caliber .52 Sharps rifle, is exhausted.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

MAY 13, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: I directed the picket-line to be relieved with some show. The enemy was closely observed. He has not left my front. All along his line the men are discharging their muskets to clean them. A row of fires is visible along his intrenchments. He has strengthened his picket-line. Last night the left of mine was driven back. Shall I still send out a force? The battery last established threw shell into the right of my pits last night.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

The position referred to by Crawford is the one occupied yesterday by the enemy in front of Warren.

MEADE,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

I do not desire a battle brought on with the enemy in their position of yesterday, but want to press as close to them as possible, to determine their position and strength. We must get by the right flank of the enemy for the next fight.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

General Hancock just reports that he has found the position of the enemy in his front, and will send a sketch of it presently.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general directs, if the ammunition of the First Pennsylvania Rifles has given out, that you at once send an officer to the ammunition trains with the Artillery Reserve, near Tabernacle Church, to procure such supply as the regiment may require to meet its immediate wants.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch relating to ammunition for the Bucktails being exhausted has been received. Do you mean that the 150 rounds have been exhausted?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

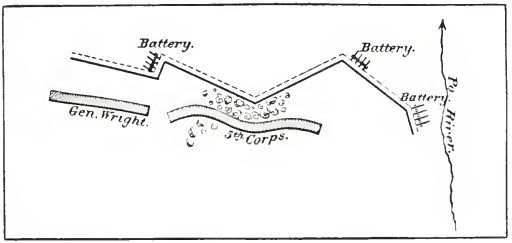
Colonel Kitching, Sixth New York Artillery, has been directed to report to you with his brigade, a battalion excepted, which rejoins the Artillery Reserve.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—10 a. m.

General MEADE:

In order to more clearly comprehend my position I send you the accompanying sketch.



G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general directs that an officer be sent to the reserve trains, with the Artillery Reserve near Tabernacle Church, for the Spencer arm ammunition General Crawford requires.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 11 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS:

I have just received the order* to advance a division and feel the enemy. I have the honor to report that I am now with Crawford's division pressed close up to the enemy's intrenchments, which are armed with artillery as on yesterday, and I do not think it is possible to get my command farther forward till after the center and left are advanced, or unless I make a movement across the Po around the enemy's left flank. I would also state that General Cutler's division is still in the center. There are three batteries in canister range of my front.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

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*See circular, 9.30 a. m., p. 705.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—11 a. m.

General WARREN:

Your sketch by H. Ricketts, and your telegram to General Williams, are received. The order sent to you to advance a division was only embodying in an order previous instructions. It is not contemplated to attack the enemy in his present position, but only to press him by these advances, so as to ascertain his position, and be prepared to give him battle if he leaves his intrenchments and advances on us. Communicate with Wright on your left, and do not advance, as indeed you cannot, but connect with him so as to be ready for the above-mentioned emergency. Wright has been directed to send back Cutler.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch of 10 a. m. received, and I am directed by the commanding general to say that you have already executed his instructions to feel the enemy. General Wright will be instructed to return Cutler's division to your command with as little delay as practicable.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 13, 1864.

General MEADE:

It seems to me if General Burnside would intrench himself in a secure position, with his flanks on Ny River, that we could safely cross the Po and get a battle out of Lee in a fair field. His so suddenly moving out against Barlow on the 10th shows he is nervous about this movement, and he keeps a considerable cavalry force over there to watch us.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—12 noon.

Captain MARVIN:

Will you inform Dr. Milhau that he must move his hospital farther to the east at once. We may have to draw in our right tomorrow to re-enforce our left.

G. K. WARREN.
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

Surgeon MILHAU, *Medical Director, Fifth Army Corps:*

I am informed unofficially that you are moving your hospital. Orders will be issued this morning to send the wounded to Freder-

icksburg, using empty army and spring wagons and ambulances. Without embarrassing yourself in the event of your having more wounded to transport, let your hospitals remain where they are and prepare to move your wounded to Fredericksburg.

THOS. A. McPARLIN,
Medical Director.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR, FIFTH ARMY CORPS:

Orders have been issued by assistant adjutant-general, from headquarters, similar to those of 11th instant, directing wounded to be sent to Fredericksburg. They are to be sent in charge of Surg. H. A. Martin, U. S. Volunteers. Trains to rendezvous near Silver's. The orders will reach you through the military channel.

THOS. A. McPARLIN,
Medical Director.

MAY 13, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

The firing is all by our men discharging their pieces to clean them. The men are walking about the field in front of the enemy's line unmolested. I have ordered my line to push out and see what there is of the enemy.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

The cannonading is the enemy shelling the woods where my men were seen moving, and I have a rifled battery replying.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Does General Warren hold the line that was fixed upon last night, or his old line in advance of it?

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to Major-General Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I hold both lines now.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

The commanding general directs that you order up to repair roads the detachment of engineer troops attached to your command now with the supply trains at Tabernacle Church. Small guards may be left with the pontoon trains.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

IN THE WOODS NEAR WARREN'S HILL,
May 13, 1864.

General WARREN:

General Meade says remain where you are, he will have orders for you in a few minutes. Please send me an orderly or two and oblige,

THE OPERATOR.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—4.35 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general directs that you make the necessary arrangements for a movement of your corps to-night, and he desires that you visit these headquarters as soon as convenient, to receive instructions. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding:

The major-general commanding directs that your infantry move by way of Scott's, Landrum's, and the ford of Ny River, near Landrum's. Captain Paine will report to you to show the route. Your artillery should move by the road to Armstrong's (these headquarters), where Major Duane, chief engineer, will furnish the commanding officer a guide for it. It will rejoin you on the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Court-House road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 13, 1864—9 p. m.

Colonel WAINWRIGHT:

The object of your movement to-night is to get on the enemy's right flank and attack at dawn of day. As soon as the guide gets you on the road from Fredericksburg to Spotsylvania Court-House, you are to move toward the latter place, and can precede your column to where the infantry of the corps will be.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 13, 1864—9.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs, if the Ny should not be fordable at the ford near Landrum's, that the infantry should move along General Burnside's line. Headquarters will leave here at 3 a. m. to proceed to General Burnside's headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 13, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The rear of my column is just off. I could not get it started till 10 p. m., though I worked my best. My artillery started early, but is now blocked on the road before reaching your headquarters. I have left a strong picket-line out, under Colonel Bates, Twelfth Massachusetts, who can be found at my old headquarters, and the orderly that brings this will stay and take any orders to him you wish, so that he can be ordered in with the pickets of General Wright. These pickets will be wanted a long time, for the roads are full of wagons going both ways and many of them stuck. I am afraid we do not get notice of things in time. My supplies did not get up in time to be issued, and now these wagons are greatly in the way. I'll do the best I can, but very difficult things are being attempted on these night movements over such roads.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—8.10 p. m.

This corps will move at once, in the following order: First, Griffin's division; second, Cutler's; third, Crawford's; fourth, Maryland Brigade; fifth, heavy artillerymen; sixth, Artillery Brigade. Troops to move left in front. Heads of columns will enter the road near where General Meade's headquarters were in this vicinity. Picket-lines to be left, and commanding officer of those of Cutler's and Crawford's divisions, and of the Maryland Brigade, will report to my headquarters at once in person. The officers will make every exertion to keep their men closed up regardless of the mud. Suc-

cess depends upon it, and the saving of much loss of life. The distance to be marched is 7 miles. No time will be taken to issue rations, and all wagons will be sent back.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Division commanders and commanders of Artillery Brigade and of heavy artillery will send word to these headquarters as soon as their commands are ready to march. There will be guides furnished from these headquarters to direct their columns in the road.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—At the end of the march care will be taken that no fires are built.

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—9 p. m.

Our march to-night is designed to bring us opposite the enemy's extreme right, on the road from Fredericksburg to Spotsylvania Court-House, there to form for an assault before daylight behind the picket-lines of the Ninth Corps. The country is represented as very open in this vicinity, favoring a rapid advance. The enemy's force is believed to be light at this point, as at present it only opposes a picket-line. There are rifle-pits constructed, and the ground is favorable for the use of artillery, but its effect is expected to be light in the obscurity of early dawn, or it may not be in position. Any delay, therefore, that will prevent the attack being made later than 4 a. m. will much increase its difficulty. General Griffin will make his disposition for assault so as to be prepared to sustain either flank, as in the night no secure provision can be had for connection with General Burnside. General Cutler will be formed in close supporting distance to General Griffin. General Crawford close to him. Dispositions will be made immediately on arriving on the ground. Quiet will be preserved, and no fires built.

G. K. WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—12.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN.

General Wright wishes me to say that he has no authority to detain you longer.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. W. HYDE.
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 13, 1864—1.30 a. m.

The command will move back on the road by which it arrived promptly at 3 o'clock in the following order: Third Brigade, Second Brigade, First Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

C. B. MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—10 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

Generals Hancock and Wright are each ordered to push out a division and feel the enemy. I wish you would have a close watch kept on the enemy along your front, and if you see an opportunity to advance under the effect of the other advances, do it. There are three batteries here you can have. Keep your command prepared for it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 13, 1864.

General CRAWFORD:

You need not make any further demonstration. I am satisfied the enemy is in our front.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

Captain MARVIN:

Three battle-flags were captured on the 5th by my brigade, which I have neglected to report before.

Very respectfully,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—12.15 a. m.

General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

What about Griffin? Do you in your reply contemplate letting him go and using Cutler only? Please answer quickly.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 13, 1864—12.20 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I propose letting Griffin go, and have sent him word that he is not under my orders. I must keep such of Cutler's troops, not exceed-

ing a brigade, I think, as are in the front. The troops are so much mixed up about the Angle that it is difficult to tell exactly what is there. With this arrangement I think I can hold my line.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—1 a. m.

General WRIGHT:

Very well; retain all of Cutler's until morning. Then retain one of his brigades.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 13, 1864. (Received 5.30 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My troops are in possession of the angle of the rebel works, and so far as can be discovered the enemy has abandoned his position. I have sent out a small reconnaissance to ascertain the condition of things in front.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

5.40 A. M.

Orders have been given to push forward from all parts of the line to feel for the enemy.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—5.30 a. m.

General WRIGHT, *Commanding Sixth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you push forward a large force after the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Colonel Kitching, with a portion of his command, is with me. What shall I do with them?

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—8 a. m.

General WRIGHT, *Commanding Sixth Corps:*

A dispatch from General Warren, dated 7.30 a. m., states that the enemy is still in the front he occupied yesterday.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864. (Received 9.15 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

General Wright says he does not require me any longer. Can I report to the Artillery Reserve?

J. HOWARD KITCHING,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—9.45 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

The commanding general directs that you order Colonel Kitching, Sixth New York Artillery, commanding brigade of heavy artillery, to send a battalion of his command to report to the commander of the Artillery Reserve, near Tabernacle Church, and with the remainder of his troops to report to Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps, whose headquarters at present are near the location of general headquarters yesterday.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A man of the Fourth New Jersey, who was left in the enemy's lines yesterday when our troops fell back after a charge, says the enemy fell back about daylight, going to the rear and our right. He says the number of troops near the Angle was not large.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—10.20 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

The Third Division, Sixth Corps, with two batteries is moving out to feel the enemy. No report received yet, but I am unofficially informed that the enemy is still in position a short distance back.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—11 a. m.

Brig. Gen. H. G. WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Army Corps:

The commanding general desires that Cutler's division be returned to the Fifth Corps with as little delay as practicable.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General WRIGHT:

I have seen your telegram to Major Duane. I have endeavored by orders and instructions and telegrams to explain that the object of the movement to-day was to ascertain if the enemy was in force in our front and to obtain some general idea of his position—in doing this the army corps co-operating to take such a position as would meet any advance of the enemy but with no intention of giving battle ourselves by advancing against the enemy's works.

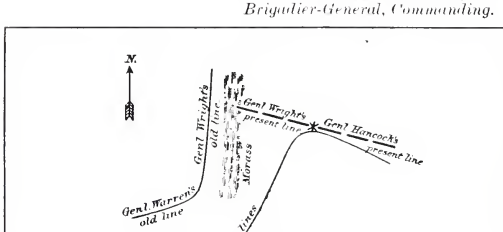
MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 13, 1864—1.05 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The result of all the reconnaissances so far as I am informed are that the enemy has abandoned the advance position held by his right—falling back on a line in the general prolongation of that in front of General Warren's old position. The examination of some prisoners brought in recently confirms this theory. I propose taking up, as soon as General Ricketts returns, the line I held last night. It is pretty well intrenched and it will be made still stronger to-day. My left will join General Hancock's line, which he is also strengthening. I send this by an orderly instead of by telegraph in order to present the sketch below in illustration. The present artillery firing is on General Warren's front.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.



HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—2 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Your dispatch of 11 a. m. in relation to Cutler's troops just received. All of his troops have been returned to him some hours since.

H. G. WRIGHT.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

A staff officer, sent out with General Ricketts, reports a strong skirmish line in his front, and a line of rifle-pits in its rear. I have ordered General Ricketts to return to his position.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—2.15 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding desires to know how far General Ricketts advanced, and the necessity for his being brought back.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WRIGHT:

I have just received a letter from the Secretary of War informing me that your name, yesterday, went into the Senate for promotion, and that he expects its immediate confirmation.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WRIGHT:

Warren reports the enemy in force in the position he occupied yesterday. Hancock has come up to his position on your left. I wish you to advance, to feel for him between the two. What progress has your advance made?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864. (Received 2.48 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

General Cutler's troops have been relieved.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864. (Received 3.10 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Dispatch of 2.30 p. m. just received. The information called for has already been furnished. Subsequent reports are that Ricketts'

skirmish line, about 300 yards in advance of Angle, was met by an intrenched picket-line of enemy, and that behind it were the enemy's intrenchments, with some artillery in position. I did not think it advisable to press farther.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—4.35 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

The commanding general directs that you make the necessary arrangements for a movement of your corps to-night, and that you send a staff officer here to receive instructions for your guidance. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 13, 1864. (Received 7.25 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In the movement of to-night I shall withdraw my pickets, unless otherwise ordered.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT, *Commanding Sixth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that the pickets be allowed to remain as long as the enemy will allow them. General Warren is similarly directed. The picket officers of the two corps should communicate with each other.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT, *Commanding Sixth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that the pickets remain until an hour of daylight.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT, *Commanding Sixth Corps:*

General Warren is directed to move his infantry by way of Scott's, Landrum's, and the ford of the Ny, near Landrum's. Captain Paine will conduct him. Your infantry will follow General Warren's.

General Warren is directed to send his artillery by the road to Armstrong's (these headquarters), where Major Duane will furnish a guide. Your artillery should be at the same point, to follow General Warren's. It should be careful not to obstruct the road so as to interfere with Warren's artillery. It will rejoin you on the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Court-House road. You will follow Warren to near Beverly's, in the vicinity of which his attack will be prepared. From Beverly's a guide will lead you to the Massaponax Church road, over an open country. Upon this road your attack is to be made. Captain Paine will furnish you a guide. He will be sent you immediately. One of our scouts reported that two regiments of the enemy's cavalry were at F. Anderson's to-day, 2½ miles from Massaponax Church. I will send you my map to look at. Please return it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 13, 1864. (Received 8.15 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

As I know nothing whatever of the roads on which I am to move I will wait as you suggest until officer and guides are sent to conduct me.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

If you have trains or hospitals about Cozzens', or Cossin's, they should be got more toward the left to-morrow morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 13, 1864. (Received 9.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I have directed the hospital and trains to move to vicinity of Salem Church.

H. G. WRIGHT.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—11.15 a. m.

All spring wagons will be ordered to report at once to the medical director at corps hospital, in the vicinity of Alsop's Mill, for the transportation of the wounded to Fredericksburg.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—8.45 p. m.

This division will hold itself in readiness to move at short notice, following the Fifth Corps, which moved at 8 o'clock this evening. Order of march: Second Brigade, Third Brigade, Fourth Brigade, First Brigade. The pickets of the corps, under the charge of the senior picket officer of the First Division, will be withdrawn one hour before daybreak, and will follow the corps.

By command of Brigadier-General Russell:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 13, 1864—1.35 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The enemy seem to have abandoned his position in front of General Wright's troops. Send out to see if the same is the case in your front.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—7.20 [a. m.]

Major-General BURNSIDE:

My sharpshooters are advancing on my right and front and feeling the enemy. I thought it better to advise you.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Comdg. Second Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 13, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Have you a colonel that ought to be promoted for competency and meritorious conduct? If so, the lieutenant-general commanding will send in his name if furnished with it.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—9 a. m.

General RAWLINS:

GENERAL: Colonel Hartranft, of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania, has, I presume, been confirmed as brigadier-general. If his confirmation is not hazarded I would strongly urge the promotion of Col. S. G. Griffin, of the Sixth New Hampshire, who has for the last few days been conspicuous for his bravery and gallantry.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 13, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The lieutenant-general desires to know the news you may have of the movements of the enemy. Are they in force, where, and how moving?

By order of Lieutenant-General Grant:

F. T. DENT,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: The telegram just sent you does not convey my own impression. I think the enemy are retreating, but their movement is so well protected as to make it very hard to determine. I will send you more definite information as soon as possible.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: I have just ordered an advance upon the enemy's lines, which has demonstrated that they are there in sufficient force to make it doubtful whether we can carry them or not, but I am still under the impression that they are making arrangements to fall back. My left as it now stands is very weak, and in case we are attacked, that part of the line would need support. If there is a surplus division near this point it might be well to let me have it.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 13, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

There will be a night movement of two corps from the right to your left. They will attack immediately on getting into position, if the chance offers. Be ready to support them, if required.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 6.30 is received, and will receive immediate attention. I will make more definite arrangements as soon as I hear from you the time and route the troops will take, which will be brought, I presume, by one of your aides-de-camp.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864—9.10 p. m.

General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

The two corps moving to the left march by the road cut out immediately to the rear of Hancock's and your corps. The roads are so bad that I fear they will find difficulty in moving the artillery, and therefore will want your reserve, or such as you do not require in your line. The only instructions I now have is for you to keep up a threatening attitude, ready to attack if the enemy weakens in your front, or to re-enforce Warren or Wright, if necessary. My aides will be sent in the morning to the left, and, if there are any further instructions then, I will send them.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

MAY 13, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

I wish to have direction about the caissons and battery wagons and forges belonging to artillery of Ninth Corps. Caissons are empty, also no forage and rations on hand. Have left all wagons at Fifth Corps hospital.

ROEMER,
Captain, Thirty-fourth New York Battery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 22. } *Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 13, 1864.*

1. Brig. Gen. James H. Ledlie, U. S. Volunteers, will report to Maj. Gen. A. E. Burnside, commanding Ninth Army Corps, for orders.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, May 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Comdg. Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The enemy have crossed the Ny to the right of our line in considerable force, and may possibly detach a force to move on Fredericksburg. Keep your cavalry pickets well out on the plank road and all other roads leading west and south of you. If you find the enemy moving infantry and artillery toward you report it promptly. In that case take up strong positions and detain him all you can, turning all trains back to Fredericksburg, and whatever falling back you may be forced to do, do in that direction. I do not think the enemy will detach in that direction, but give you this warning in time in case they should. Require all trains coming to the front to come by the Massaponax Church road.

Very respectfully,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Chancellorsville, Va., May 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I wish to make the following report of my position: My lines extend from Todd's Tavern, Furnaces, Dowdall's Tavern, Ely's Ford, United States Ford, Banks' Ford, the road to Fredericksburg, and patrol 6 miles down the Telegraph road. The lines are very much extended and I cannot spare any more troops to accompany trains to Belle Plain without endangering trains at this place. If the general commanding desires any change in my position I should be happy to hear from him. I would like to know the exact position of our troops at the front that I may be able to conform with their changes.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
EDW. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO:

Your letter of this evening is received. I inclose you with this the position we will hold to-morrow morning.* The only fords necessary to hold will be Ely's and United States. Dowdall's Tavern is far enough west for you to picket; you can give up therefore the guard at Todd's Tavern and Banks' Ford. No more troops need be taken from you to guard trains, and those sent already you may send for to return. Communicate this to General Burnside, commanding Ninth Corps, through whom it would be sent but for the delay that would occur in so sending it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—The black lines on the map show the position of our troops.
U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO:

On a close examination of the map you are directed to withdraw only the guards at Todd's Tavern back to Piney Branch Church. The order sent you this evening is modified accordingly.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:
JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—11 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER DISMOUNTED CAVALRY WITH TRAINS:

SIR: The commanding general directs that through a staff officer you report to Brigadier-General Ferrero, at Chancellorsville, the

* Inclosure not found.

strength of the dismounted cavalry with the trains, the location of the several detachments, and that you from time to time permit such guards as may be required to conduct to the provost-marshal-general here the stragglers from this army that may be arrested by General Ferrero's command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 13, 1864.

Colonel TOWNSEND:

Order General Benham's Engineer Brigade to Belle Plain to construct and repair roads to Fredericksburg, leaving only men enough to guard engineer property.

H. W. HALLECK.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., May 13, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM, U. S. Volunteers,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: The Secretary of War directs that you repair without delay with the Engineer Brigade to Belle Plain, Va., to construct and repair roads to Fredericksburg, leaving only men enough at the depot here to guard engineer property. Acknowledge receipt.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
May 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

GENERAL: The Adjutant-General was instructed this morning to order your brigade to Belle Plain. Major-General Halleck directs that you take with you a portion of your bridge train for the purpose of constructing floating wharves to facilitate the landing of stores and the embarkation of the wounded. Inclosed please find copy of the instructions* to the Adjutant-General, and of a note* sent to you on the 11th at Fredericksburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. KELTON,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM, or
OFFICER COMMANDING ENGINEER TROOPS,
Belle Plain:

SIR: The commanding general directs that Major Brainerd return to the vicinity of Salem Church with his command, taking to that

* See Halleck to Benham, May 11, p. 653, and Halleck to Townsend, May 13, above.

place with him 4 boats, with all the necessary appurtenances, 14 claw balks, 130 chesses, and all his wagons and transportation. Major Brainerd will report to Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Since the original was written, the trains have been moved from Salem Church to Fredericksburg. Major Brainerd will therefore join the train at the latter place.

Respectfully,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you at once relieve by troops of your command the engineer troops now guarding the pontoon bridge at Fredericksburg, and order that detachment to report to the commander of the Second Corps with the least practicable delay. The bridge at Fredericksburg will remain there for the present.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BELLE PLAIN, VA.,
Friday Evening, May 13, 1864.

Capt. C. CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Please send me immediately axes, shovels, picks, and carpenters' tools. The quartermaster's department wants another dock made, but I have no pontoons or material to build it. Can you send me some? I should also like, if possible, more men, as my detail is too small to do half the work that is to be done. I do my best, and the men work night and day.

Respectfully,

TIMOTHY LUBEY,
Captain, Fifteenth New York Volunteer Engineers.

DEVEREUX STATION.
May 13, 1864. (Received 11.45.)

General H. W. BENHAM:

We were ordered back; be in Washington 12 o'clock. Please send detail to unload. My men are worn out.

H. V. SLOSSON.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
May 13, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: In addition to the troops already ordered you will send to General Grant the following, viz: The artillery regiments of Colonel Morris, Colonel Chaplin, Colonel Whistler, and Colonel Tannatt, replacing them by one company of field artillery from Camp Barry in each fort till the Ohio militia arrives, when these also will be placed in the forts. As soon as Porter's regiment of heavy artillery arrives from Baltimore it will also be sent to General Grant. All these forces will be under command of General Tyler till you yourself are ordered to the field. Each man should take five days' provisions and 150 rounds of cartridges.

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
Washington, D. C., May 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General BRIGGS,
Alexandria:

Send the officers to Belle Plain, to report to General Abercrombie; send all artillery recruits to Camp Barry, all cavalry recruits to Camp Stoneman, and equip all infantry recruits that they may be at once sent to the front.

Respectfully,

J. H. TAYLOR,
Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., May 13, 1864.

Capt. J. G. C. LEE,
Assistant Quartermaster, Alexandria, Va.:

Mr. Wentz, general superintendent of military railroad at Alexandria, will apply to you for transportation for 200 men to Belle Plain. Please send them forward by the first boat leaving. Captain Allen, assistant quartermaster, will send two or three boats this evening to Alexandria for the purpose of taking to Belle Plain a brigade of General Tyler's division. Get them off as soon as possible.

D. H. RUCKER,
Brigadier-General and Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 13, 1864—4 p. m.

General U. S. GRANT,
Comdg. Armies of the United States, in the Field:

GENERAL: The prisoners of war have just arrived; until more troops arrive the detachments which guarded them to this place will

necessarily have to remain with them as I have dispatched all but a sufficient number to protect the depot, and for this purpose I have retained the most inefficient. As soon as they arrive I will relieve them. The rebel officers will be shipped this p. m. for Fort Delaware. Colonel Hoffman, commissary-general of prisoners, is here with instructions to send them on.

I have the honor to be,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 13, 1864—1.55 p. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Belle Plain, Va.:

The railroad constructing corps of 500 men, and also General Benham's Engineer Brigade, have been ordered to Belle Plain to construct wharves and repair road to Fredericksburg. The dismounted cavalry and four additional companies of Veteran Reserves have been ordered down as guards for depots and escorts for prisoners to places designated by Colonel Hoffman. Troops for the front should be sent forward as guards to trains in sufficient bodies to resist guerrilla raids. You will exercise at Belle Plain and on the road to Fredericksburg the authority of post and district commander, subject to such orders as you may receive from Generals Grant and Meade. No effort should be spared in getting forward troops and supplies.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 13, 1864. (Received 11.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of to-day was received at 2 p. m. Additional wharves and repairs are much needed to facilitate the forward movement of troops and supplies. I send off troops as fast as they can be landed, retaining the most inefficient for duties of various kinds here. Four hundred rebel officers will be shipped this afternoon for Fort Delaware. Seven thousand, who have just arrived, are awaiting transportation. The trains are well cared for.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 13, 1864.

General AUGUR,
Commanding Department of Washington:

I beg leave respectfully to state as fast as the troops arrive and can be disembarked they are pushed on to the front; but owing to the shoalness of the water, the confined space, and the want of a more capacious dock or landing-place, which is filled up constantly with ambulances and wagons loaded with wounded, it is with great

difficulty that supplies can be landed for the army. Moreover, should the services of the gun-boats be necessary for the protection of the depot, it would be impossible for them to do so, as they cannot approach within effective range. The wharf is a very contracted and frail affair; gave way yesterday, thereby delaying operations for nearly one-half the day, trains reaching near half way to Fredericksburg necessarily awaiting for hours before they can be unloaded. I am told by the naval commander the facilities for landing at Aquia Creek are very good, with two fathoms of water up to the wharf. Should we have another storm such as we had last night I fear it would be difficult, if not impracticable, to keep the trains running with sufficient supplies for the army.

I have the honor, &c.,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 13, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER:

COLONEL: A battalion of the Veteran Reserve Corps, 500 strong, is now en route to Fredericksburg. These troops will relieve the Fifty-seventh New York Infantry mentioned in yours of this date.

I have the honor to be,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BALTIMORE, *May* 13, 1864.
(Received 6.20 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Porter's regiment has been ready to move several days. It shall go instantly a relieving regiment arrives.

LEW. WALLACE,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 13, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
In the Field (via Fortress Monroe):

Your dispatch of yesterday 3.30 has been forwarded to General Grant. A dispatch just received from the battle-field reports a general attack by Grant at 6 a. m., in which great success was achieved. Hancock had captured Maj. Gen. Edward Johnson's division, taken him and Early and forty cannon, and the prisoners were counted by thousands. Nothing has been heard for two days from General Sherman. The lines are broken by a heavy storm.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, May 13, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
In the Field:

Lee abandoned his works last night and retreated. Grant is pursuing. There has been thirty-six hours' hard rain, and the roads are heavy. At last account Hancock had come up to his rear guard.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

MAY 13, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The captain of Winants reports that two docks opposite Wind-Mill Point, on east side of river, and one at Harrison's Bar, were burned yesterday or last night, and that a rebel signal station is in operation near Swan's Point, south side.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. O'BRIEN.

BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA.,
May 13, 1864—5 p. m.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: In accordance with orders from General Halleck, I have the honor to report with my regiment, the First Connecticut Artillery, about 1,700 strong, with 100 horses and seven wagons (ten more on the way). I have a siege train afloat at Washington Arsenal, and was told by General Halleck that "it might be ordered here (part of it) if General Butler desired it; or better, that siege guns might be brought from Fortress Monroe." As there are several guns of this class now landed here, I presume they are designed for my regiment, which has been designated by order of General Grant to take charge of the heavy artillery for the siege of Richmond. I respectfully request orders as to point of debarkation, &c.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 13, 1864.
(Received 4 a. m. 14th.)

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding First Connecticut Artillery:

You will march at once, and report to the officer in command of intrenchments on the line, at the center thereof, so as to reach that line by daylight to-morrow morning. This order must be promptly complied with. No waiting for teams or horses will excuse delay.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *May* 13, 1864.

Major DAVIS:

Six hundred dismounted cavalry, First District of Columbia Cavalry, will arrive here to-morrow morning from Washington. Will they be of use at the front, or shall I send them to General Shepley?

H. T. SCHROEDER,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 13, 1864—11 p. m.

OFFICER COMMANDING AT INTRENCHMENTS:

You will at once send two of your best regiments, with a competent colonel commanding, to march as guard to an ammunition train, to report to General Gillmore. Their place will be supplied on your line with the First Connecticut Artillery, which will report to you by daylight to-morrow morning. The utmost dispatch and promptness will be required.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

IN THE FIELD, *May* 13, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

I am rejoiced to learn that you are well started. Have been waiting. We cannot engage the enemy without assaulting the creek you are to turn. Push on vigorously, and engage the enemy yourself.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 13, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

The two regiments sent out to General Ames are now about half or three-fourths of a mile in your rear on pike. The two ordered up from intrenchments have not been heard from, but will be due in a couple of hours.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

Your dispatch is received concerning Langdon's battery. My column is now crossing the railroad at Chester Station. I cannot find any road leading to where I can turn the batteries, except one

through the woods, and another 6 miles long. I am going through the wood and have 2½ to 3 miles to go. The two regiments from the intrenchments are on the pike.

Respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

AT HALF-WAY HOUSE, [*May* 13, 1864]—12 m.

General GILLMORE:

Dispatch received. Don't open up the gap between our flanks too wide. We are here between the two creeks; Kingsland Creek is their line. Can you turn that?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 13, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

I received your dispatch about Colonel West's cavalry, and immediately directed a portion of them to report to General Ames. Colonels Cole's and Garrard's cavalry I know nothing about. They may form a portion of Colonel West's brigade for aught I know. We have taken the right of the enemy's line of works after a severe fight. Rations and ammunition should be sent here for the men. There are some platform cars on the branch road beyond Chester Station loaded with lumber. I brought a piece of artillery forward on one of them this a. m. Rations and ammunition can be sent by the same way. You had better notify General Ames about his rations.

Respectfully, yours, &c.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 13, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

I have your two dispatches. Provisions for this portion of my command for two days have been ordered up. I have given no orders about it to General Turner or Ames. I have sent in to Colonel West to send to General Ames that portion of his command left back to rest. About an hour ago General Ames sent me word that the enemy's pickets were in his front in small force, and that his cavalry connected with our left on the railroad.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Right of the Enemy's Line (inside his works),
May 13, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

After a severe conflict we have taken the enemy's works on his extreme right. Ammunition and provisions for this command should be sent here. I have not heard from General Ames since my last dispatch, or from any other portion of your command. I do not know where you are or where to communicate with you. I send this by way of the railroad over which one column of my command advanced. The troops have behaved splendidly.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, *May* 13, 1864—6.10 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

If you can find the wagons from my command with rations and ammunition, send them to the railroad by the road I took this morning. I will send a force there to meet them.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 13, 1864—7 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

Dispatch received. Your success is truly gratifying and worthy your energy and perseverance. We are before the enemy's works at this point, Half-Way House. Ammunition and provisions will be sent forward. Can you not meet your own there?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

IN THE FIELD, *May* 13, 1864—8 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

I have sent your dispatch to General Ames. The whole line is advancing. I will try the pathway you reconnoitered as soon as General Smith returns, he having gone out to advance General Brooks' line, which you know now holds the left next to you.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864—7 p. m.

General AMES:

General Gillmore has carried the enemy's works on their right. We are before them on the left. Glorious news from Grant inclosed. Can you hold your own without help? Guard against surprise and night attack. Report to me frequently, near Half-Way House (Dr. Cheatham's).

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SMITH'S SIGNAL STATION,
May 13, 1864—2.15 a. m.

General BUTLER:

General Turner was ordered to leave two regiments at the point indicated. The regiments now behind you should move up to the first cross-roads.

SMITH,
General.

MAY 13, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have only 150 colored cavalry, and they are on picket. General Turner has reported to me that it is utterly impossible to communicate with General Gillmore without going back across Proctor's Creek. Shall I send them?

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 13, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: My commissary had already made arrangements to supply General Turner, but General Turner's own wagons are now up, so it is all right.

Respectfully,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—The rebels have not yet left my front.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

GENERAL: General Smith directs that you leave two regiments to hold the cross-roads and move with the rest of your force to support the troops at the Half-Way House on the turnpike.

Respectfully,

A. H. DUTTON,
Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

The general commanding Eighteenth Corps desires you to take your whole command, excepting the two regiments that General Brooks now has, and march in the direction of the firing. You will keep on the north side of Proctor's Creek. Please turn over the two regiments while you are away back again to General Brooks.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

GENERAL: The general commanding corps desires you to make arrangements for supplying your command with one day's rations should you not have done so. The wagons should be sent back out of the way after the rations are delivered. The general also wishes you to send back for a battery (one you sent in yesterday), to be put in position so as to cover those right-hand roads by Howlett's.

Respectfully,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

IN THE FIELD, *May* 13, 1864—10 a. m.

General HINKS:

Report operations to me forthwith how far you have obeyed the order to fortify that point opposite Smith's headquarters. Look out for Fort Powhatan; the rebel newspapers threaten to attack it.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
City Point, Va., May 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. A. WILD,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that an attack may be expected on Fort Powhatan, and to instruct you in case an attack should be made to send one of your regiments to the relief of the garrison immediately.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

IN THE FIELD, *May* 13, 1864—10 a. m.

General GRAHAM:

I am informed that there is a rebel signal station working at Swan's Point. Stop it.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GUN-BOAT SIGNAL STATION, GRAHAM'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 13, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General BUTLER:

Reconnaissance was made last night up the Appomattox and Swift Creek. The rebels still occupy Fort Clifton, and both streams are strongly picketed. There is a heavy battery on Swift Creek about a mile from its mouth.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
City Point, Va., May 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note to General Hinks of this date. General Hinks is now at the point opposite General Smith's headquarters. Colonel Duncan, with the Fourth and Sixth Regiments U. S. Colored Troops and two sections of artillery, left for that point yesterday morning, and the fortifications by this time must be well advanced.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

IN THE FIELD,
Near Drewry's Bluff, May 13, 1864—9 a. m.

Rear-Admiral LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

Would it not be possible for you to bring up the gun-boats, monitors, opposite Dr. Howlett's, so as to cover our flank on the river and relieve a considerable body of my troops? Both sides of the river there are low and flat, and it is an excellent point for the gun-boats to lie.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE:

I think it would be of great public service if you can put your boats so as to cover my landing for supplies at Howlett's house.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FLAG-SHIP MALVERN,
Birdcage Reach, James River, May 13, 1864—6 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 14th. Received 6.30 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

General Butler asks for monitors above Trent's Reach. Torpedoes, commanded by rebels on the left bank, which commands our deck, and shoal water, by chart, by several feet less than the monitors draw, make difficult the advance, which I shall push to-morrow morning. We have discovered another kind of torpedo, of which the enemy is making much use. No news from Richmond. General Butler had yesterday advanced near Drewry's Bluff.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, May 14, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Headquarters in the Field

(Care of Captain Collins, to be forwarded immediately in duplicate by different couriers):

Your note of yesterday has just reached me, the courier having come on to Washington. General Wright was nominated two days ago, and confirmed by the Senate for major-general. General Humphreys, General Schofield, General Wilson, and all before the Senate have been confirmed, except General Carr, whose nomination was not acted upon. There is at present no vacancy for a major-generalship, but I will muster out some one for Gibbon. The brigadiers in volunteer service you name shall be appointed. If there be any vacancies in regular army for brigadier, Hancock shall have it. There is one regular major-generalship vacant, but brevets can be given without limit. Dodge has been designated for some time for the first vacant major-generalship in the volunteers. Buell objects to serving under Canby. Wright will be assigned to Sixth Corps. Your recommendations in favor of Meade and Sherman will be carried out. We have heard nothing from Sherman for three days, nor from Butler. Sigel is at Woodstock; reports Breckinridge at Staunton on the 10th of May, and that a portion of his force was in Sigel's front. Crook had not been heard from since the 6th of this month, and was then at Princeton.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Spotsylvania, May 14, 1864—7.10 a. m.
(Received 9.20 a. m. 17th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.

The very heavy rains of the last forty-eight hours have made it almost impossible to move trains or artillery. Two corps were moved last night, in the night, from our right to the left, with orders to attack at 4 a. m., but owing to the difficulties of the road have not fully got into position. This with the continued bad weather may prevent offensive operations to-day. Yesterday but little was done only from 100 to 150 prisoners falling into our hands without, or almost without, loss on our side.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 14, 1864—9.12 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Army of the Potomac:

Dispatch for General Butler sent forward. Telegram from Sherman to-day near Resaca, saying that he had turned the enemy's position and forced him to evacuate Dalton. Re-enforcements mentioned in my letter of last night will not all reach Belle Plain before Tuesday, for want of transportation.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 14, 1864—6 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: General Warren reports the head of his column just arrived. The column broken and scattered. He doubts the practicability of getting his command into a condition to do anything today. General Wright has also just reached here, and I have directed him to move over to the Massaponax Church road and mass out of sight of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—7.45 a. m.

[Lieutenant-General GRANT:]

I propose to place my headquarters in the vicinity of this place, the Beverly house, on north side of the Ny.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: Warren reports the enemy moving troops to the left. He also says the force that attacked Upton came from the south on the road from Guiney's Station. Don't you think Hancock had better move around, starting before day to-morrow. I would like to get the Army of the Potomac together, and Burnside would have the right flank.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 14, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

You may move Hancock's corps to the left, as you suggest, leaving one division in rear of and for the support of Burnside's right until I can send officers there in the morning to fix his position and make it secure.

Very respectfully,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff

GENERAL: From a point near Anderson's house I have a fine view of Spotsylvania Court-House and a long distance of their intrenchments. The main intrenchment is just in front of the town and runs about parallel with the river. There are at places two

lines. The intrenchments are filled with men. No bodies of troops seen moving. Every point visible contains works. Our men have just reached the Gayle house. The rebel infantry are coming out of the woods, but only a small body, perhaps 200, have shown themselves so far. A battery planted in the rear of Anderson's house could silence the enemy's battery that has opened.

Yours,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain.

MAY 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy that showed themselves at the Gayle house and engaged our skirmishers are only dismounted cavalry. They have with them three or four guns. They are now retiring slowly along a road leading toward the rear of the Court-House. The enemy in the intrenchments showed themselves on the works when the firing on the left commenced and seemed to be a numerous line, as they stood very thick. They did not move any troops toward the firing from the intrenchments.

B. F. FISHER.
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—5.10 a. m.

A. H. CALDWELL:

As soon as the short line between here and General Hancock's headquarters is fully established you can have the wire of the long line taken up.

S. WILLIAMS.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864.

A. H. CALDWELL:

General Meade wants the line extended from this end as soon as possible. How much wire of both kinds have you? The line need not be extended from General Hancock's toward General Burnside at present.

S. WILLIAMS.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864.

A. H. CALDWELL:

General Meade wishes you if possible to have, say, 3 miles of wire packed on horses or mules and sent out here immediately to extend the line. You had better get 4 miles additional field wire from the train as soon as possible; the long line to this place must not be

taken up until the line can be extended from here across to General Hancock, a distance, I suppose, not exceeding 4 miles. Can you pack the necessary tools to cut and put up the few poles that may be required immediately?

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

The general supply trains of the army, the Artillery Reserve, and the ammunition with the Artillery Reserve, have been ordered to proceed from Salem Church to Fredericksburg to-morrow morning.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Generals Hancock and Wright.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—3.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I will commence a bombardment of the enemy's works and push forward my skirmishers.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 14, 1864.

General MEADE:

There are over 7,000 stand of arms collected on the field, but I have no way of removing them. What disposition shall be made of them?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 14, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK:

At the present moment it is impracticable to move to the rear the arms alluded to in your dispatch of this morning. The commanding general wishes you to have them sent to Belle Plain when you have empty wagons going for supplies that can be used for the purpose; and in case your command should be moved before they can be taken away, he desires you to have them destroyed, should this be necessary to prevent them from falling into the hands of the enemy.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding directs that you send an officer to withdraw pickets of Generals Wright and Warren and have them sent to their corps, and look out for your right. Captain Adams, commanding escort of General Meade, who is picketing on Warren's right, under Warren's orders, should also be withdrawn and returned to headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—9.35 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: I have advanced my skirmish line considerably. The enemy's resistance is strong. The skirmishers say that the enemy are in a line of rifle-pits in their front. I shall still press them. Have lost a number of men. There are two more pieces of artillery and some caissons, captured on the 12th, now between our skirmishers and the enemy's, which we are trying to get in.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch received. The major-general commanding desires me to say that after you have secured the two pieces of artillery you can remain quiet for the day. The attack here is suspended.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Captain Adams has returned from picketing the right of General Warren's old position.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—12.30 p. m. (Received 2.15 p. m.)

Maj. W. G. MITCHELL, *Aide-de-Camp:*

General Humphreys has reported that Captain Adams has returned. Withdraw the pickets very slowly and in good order. Colonel Morgan is firing on the right with some artillery, &c.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

I. B. PARKER,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

Has my picket-line on our right flank been withdrawn to-day? It was a long and very strong one.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 14, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

It has. It was relieved by Major Mitchell, from right to left. The enemy followed and wounded a few of the men. The colonel was here a short time since. It was consolidated upon my right until all could [be] relieved, and I told Colonel Bates a short time since how to take them to your camp.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 14, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

Did all our trains get out of the way?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

General WARREN:

I do not know about the trains; I have had only a report from the medical director, Second Corps. I will know more soon, I suppose, as I sent a regiment of infantry there. The cavalry inquired the road to Fredericksburg.

W. S. H.

The medical director says that the ambulances and wagons took the road to Salem Church, and he supposes the enemy's cavalry would strike them if they went that road.

SECOND CORPS,
May 14, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The Fifth and Sixth Corps pickets have been withdrawn; are now concentrated on my right flank and will be sent to their corps at once. The enemy's pickets followed the line in and are now engaged with my skirmishers along the creek, where my right rests, some distance above the Brown house, where the road crosses the old line of rifle-pits. The enemy's cavalry was seen behind. Some of our pickets were wounded and a few captured.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—6.45 p. m.

General MEADE:

GENERAL: The enemy's cavalry have appeared at my hospital, near the cross-roads in rear of the Brown house, driving in the guard there. I sent a regiment back to clear them out and a brigade to occupy the old rifle-pits to the right of the Brown house, as a support to the right and to protect the men.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

You must look out for your right; nothing done here to-day; men too tired; Upton was driven from an advanced post this afternoon, but Ayres promptly retook it. Send word to Mrs. Armstrong, at our late headquarters, that her son has telegraphed, Mr. A. has left Wilmington for home.

MEADE.

MAY 14, 1864—8.25 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Army of the Potomac, Va.:

I have sent the information to Mrs. Armstrong. My right I am anxious about, as a road passes across the Ny to my rear inconveniently near. Still it is as strong as twenty-four pieces of artillery, supported by infantry, can make it. I have had rifle-pits constructed and trust to Providence. My line is too long, but I can't shorten it unless Burnside relieves my two left brigades by his two in reserve. Then I would be right, for I could send Barlow's division to my right.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Directions are given to remove all the wounded from the hospitals to the rear, and Dr. McParlin assures me it will be completed to-night. If the regiment can remain there to-night and join you in the morning without any great risk, the commanding general thinks it better that it should remain until then.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

The Twelfth New Jersey can remain until 3 a. m., then march to its division promptly. If cut off by the enemy, let it cross the Ny and proceed toward the road followed by the Sixth Corps to-day. It is believed there will be no difficulty if it comes in promptly at 3 a. m.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 14, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I have 400 wounded about 1 mile north from where General Meade's headquarters were last night and have sent ambulances for them. Do you know if the enemy has penetrated that far?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HANCOCK'S, *May* 14, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Major-General WARREN and
General MEADE:

It is reliable that the Fifth Corps hospital has been entered by the enemy. General Rosser said to be in command of brigade of cavalry. He left the men attendants who had on badges, took away the rest, and all the rebels who could walk. There were 270 patients left.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Men of Second and Fifth Corps and rebels who were wounded, and not yet hauled off to the rear, are about 2 miles at least from here. I sent out a regiment there, not knowing the distance to be so great. As the damage is done to the Fifth Corps hospital, I desire to know whether you wish the regiment to remain there in that exposed position or not. The cavalry inquired at a house where the road to Fredericksburg was.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Comdg. Second Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you move to-morrow morning at 4 o'clock to the road from Fredericksburg to Spotsylvania Court-House, by the route taken by the Sixth Corps this morning. Guides will be sent to you. You will report the arrival of the head of your column at the road. You will leave one division in rear of Burnside's right, for its support, until his position can be rearranged.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864.

The command will move to-morrow in the following order: Second Division, First Division, Third Division will bring up the rear, and will leave one division massed behind General Burnside's

right, for his support, while his front line can be rearranged. The Third Division will relieve itself by marching to the left along the rifle-pits from the extreme right. When General Burnside's lines are rearranged, the pickets can be withdrawn in the same manner as the troops, but General Birney will consult with General Burnside to find out the position he is to assume before deserting the rifle-pits. The command of General Birney on the right of the swamp should, as soon as relieved, take position in the place vacated by General Barlow in the rifle-pits, so as not to endanger his left flank while retiring the troops on the right. The batteries of General Birney's division (two) will accompany his command. The other will form part of the reserve.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—12 m.

The Second Division will move at 4 a. m., following the route of the Sixth Corps to-day. At 3 a. m. the artillery now in position on the right will be withdrawn, and the brigades of the Third, now in position on the right, will be moved on to relieve the troops of the First Division now in the rifle-pits. The First Division will follow immediately after the Second. As soon as the First Division has cleared the road, the Third Division will commence moving by the left flank along the rifle-pits, passing and forming in rear of General Burnside's command. The pickets will be withdrawn from the right, as the movement progresses, taking post in the rifle-pits as withdrawn. The pickets of the First Division will remain on until General Birney directs them to be relieved. The artillery will all move by the route of the First and Second Divisions. All artillery, except such as is considered by General Birney necessary for the holding of his line, will precede the infantry, and must cross the Ny before 4 o'clock. Chief of artillery can obtain a guide from these headquarters. The route by which General Birney moves is hardly practicable for artillery, and the artillery detained by General Birney should be sent on the other road. The ammunition wagons now with the troops will follow the division.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—11 p. m.

The empty wagons all being in use for sending the sick to the rear, the arms collected on the field will be destroyed or buried to-night, as the command moves in the morning. The guns captured in the late fight will be carried in the wagons of Captain McEntee, assistant quartermaster, if the chief of artillery does not provide transportation for them to the rear. The caissons and limbers will be destroyed.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—11.40 a. m.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, SECOND CORPS:

All the pickets were relieved and ordered to join their command. The enemy pressed them, flanked them, and there was unavoidable confusion; many were wounded. It was impossible to withdraw them in order, so division officer says.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 14, 1864.

Col. WILLIAM BLAISDELL,
Commanding Fourth Brigade:

COLONEL: You will at once clear a road directly behind your breast-work, so that troops can pass easily from right to left. You can throw the brush in front of your works. You will make the clearing in front of your works complete, and at least 80 feet wide This will be done at once.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. BIRNEY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL WRIGHT'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 14, 1864—1.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Griffin's, Cutler's, and Crawford's divisions have passed this point. The Maryland Brigade and artillery are to pass yet. The column moves very slowly. There must be obstructions at the head of it. Having superintended the setting out, and sent nearly all my staff ahead with General Griffin, I am now going to join the head of the column myself. It is one of the darkest nights at this hour I ever saw.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—4 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The head of my column came here a little while ago, but in the night most of the men fell out of the ranks from weariness and the command became disjointed, and part lost their way. I have nothing to go forward, for those who have come up are excessively weary. I have not more with me than would make a good skirmish line for the corps. I am pushing them out. I have spared no effort, but my men could not be gotten up. I must await their coming. The enemy is here in some force.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

MAY 14, 1864—6 a. m.

The above dispatch just received from Warren, who is quite near. The dispatch dated 4 a. m. indicates affairs [at] this moment.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The understanding I had was to attempt to carry the enemy's line by surprise at dawn this morning. My inability to get my men here prevented this. My men are gradually coming in, but a large portion will be all day, and are exhausted with fatigue. I do not think they are in condition to fight to advantage. Have you any further directions to give in view of this statement?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 14, 1864—7.10 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Your dispatch of 6.30 a. m. is received. The major-general commanding has no further instructions to give except that you report as soon as your force is got together. He desires that you ascertain the position on the Court-House road held by Burnside's troops, and the number of men holding it, with a view to your relieving them. You are not to relieve them without orders.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—You will make your dispositions to attack and report as soon as you are ready.

MAY 14, 1864—7.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have now in position, in hand, Griffin's division, about 2,500, Cutler's division, about 1,300, Crawford's division not yet ascertained, Colonel Kitching's brigade not yet ascertained. My staff are all at work. General Griffin is sending out to get possession of an eminence and house to the southwest, which will give us a nearer view of the enemy from that direction. The enemy is taking down his tents deliberately. I have had some men wounded skirmishing. I am getting my artillery in position; it is all up. I had relieved Burnside's dismounted cavalry before I received your dispatch, to diminish the confusion about here.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General

BEVERLY HOUSE, *May* 14, 1864—7.50 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My men are nearly all in the position that I wish them. My strength is increasing all the time by the arrival of those who lost their way or fell back. Strength present: General Griffin, 2,500; General Cutler, 1,500; General Crawford, not known; Colonel Kitching, 1,000; total, 5,000. My men encountered only cavalry in the attack on the house south. The force southwest from here remains in its place. I understand you can see all I can.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Wright has sent a brigade to the house where you sent a regiment, the house due south from these headquarters; it is known by the name of Bleak Hill.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that the attack be suspended to-day. You will conceal your troops as much as possible, but throw out your skirmishers well and learn everything you can of the position and force of the enemy. General Wright, as I have already advised you, has sent a brigade to the house on your left from which the enemy's battery was driven.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.
May 14, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General WARREN.
Commanding Fifth Corps

The major-general commanding has directed General Hancock to withdraw your pickets as well as General Wright's and send them to you. Captain Adams should be withdrawn at the same time.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Some one here tells me that Captain Adams was not on our right, but is now on our left. Is that so?

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—2.15 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I have just received your order to issue two days' salt meat to the troops and send back the wagons. We issued one day's salt meat this a. m.; the rest is back with the supply train at Fredericksburg, and my quartermaster says it is almost impossible to get it up by the old road. If we can have the straight pike guarded it can be done with ease.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—5.15 p. m.

General WARREN:

General Wright, from the Anderson house, is directed with his corps to regain the hill from which Upton has just been driven. You will co-operate in such way as he may desire, either with your batteries or by supporting him with infantry.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

WRIGHT'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 14, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

As soon as my troops are in position I shall move forward. Russell, on the right, is instructed to keep connection with your left. I will open with two batteries as soon as I am ready.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

General GRIFFIN:

Read this and tell General Ayres to move up carefully, till he sees a good chance, or Wright's batteries begin, as he says they will. At that time he may expect General Russell to operate from his left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SIXTH CORPS,
May 14, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

About an hour ago or more the enemy attacked Colonel Upton, and before I could learn anything about what was going on he was driven from the hill. He had not force enough to hold them back. Shall I retake it, if I can? Artillery at the Anderson house, in connection with mine, would make the place untenable for the enemy, and I have asked General Wright to put some there.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Where is that musketry firing? Is it in your front, Wright's, or Burnside's?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The musketry firing has been along the Ny River, in front of General Wright; not much of it. I am moving Ayres, with 1,000 men, out to take this force of the enemy on their left flank.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—7 p. m.

General WARREN:

What is all the cannonading about?

MEADE.

MAY 14, 1864.

General MEADE:

It is General Wright. It might as well be stopped. My men will advance if it does. I think the enemy has retired from the house.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[MAY 14, 1864.]

General WRIGHT:

I think the enemy has left the house. My infantry will move on when your batteries stop. Move your infantry, too.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 14, 1864—7.40 p. m.

General MEADE:

I have not received any report from the cheering. I have no doubt General Ayres has regained the hill where Upton was.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—7.50 p. m.

General MEADE:

Ayres reports himself in position where Upton was and has communicated this to the advance of Wright. I hope the Sixth Corps will relieve him and allow his men complete rest to-night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

Orders sent to Wright to relieve Ayres. I thank you and Ayres for taking the hill; it was handsomely done.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—8.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS.

The enemy made but little resistance to our regaining Jett's house. The force that attacked Upton came from the south, from the road between Guiney's Station and the Court-House. The country between Jett's house and this road is mainly open, with a belt of woods intervening. The ground at the house is as high as the Court-House and descends to the southeast. I will send you a sketch. There is no road from here to Jett's for artillery. There can be one got between it and the Anderson house. Jett's place is known as the Bleak Hill. He is a temporary occupant. Troops have been moving to the left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have just sent a prisoner from Anderson's division, of Hill's corps, taken at the Jett house. He says it was at least two brigades that charged Upton, also that the whole corps is at the Court-House and has been in line of battle all day. They have been there for three days.

G. K. WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My infantry picket-line is well posted and connecting with the cavalry north of Ny River.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—11 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have sent you a plotted sketch of the vicinity. It will require a road to be made to get artillery up from Anderson's to Jett's, so far as I have been able to find out.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—11.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I sent all my train last night to Salem Church, and Colonel Owen, my quartermaster, when they got there, ordered them back here. They are now strung along the road, 200 wagons and an ambulance train, from a point 2 miles this side of Tabernacle Church to Ny River, and stuck in the mud. The quartermaster's department is responsible for this condition of things; they did not leave Salem Church by my order.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 14, 1864—11.50 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs that the trains you mentioned be got out of the way of Hancock's route immediately. Hancock is ordered to move here at 4 o'clock to-morrow morning by the route you followed. Infantry same as your infantry. Artillery the same route as your artillery.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

CAMP OF TWELFTH REGT. MASSACHUSETTS VOLS.,
May 14, 1864.

Capt. A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to state, in reply to your inquiry, that I received orders to withdraw my lines at 11 a. m., and immediately went to the extreme right and commenced the movement from that point. It was dark when we reached General Hancock's intrenchments. General Hancock directed me to mass and remain until he relieved a part of a regiment of the Sixth Corps and my skirmishers, which I had thrown out. These did not report to me until after daylight this morning.

Your obedient servant,

J. L. BATES,
Colonel, Commanding Twelfth Massachusetts Volunteers.

HDQRS. FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *May* 14, 1864—6.20 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

If you find it necessary to support General Ayres, do so with your own division, and I will replace your line with other troops. Let me know then if you send more troops out of General Ayres' brigade.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SIXTH CORPS, *May* 14, 1864—2.55 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The rear of General Warren's column has just passed. It is now within a few minutes of 3 o'clock. It will not be possible for me to get into position to attack at 4 o'clock.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SIXTH ARMY CORPS, *May* 14, 1864—2.15 p. m.

General MEADE:

Dispatch of 1 p. m. received, and instructions will be promptly carried out. I advanced my skirmish line about 300 yards this morning, and about an hour ago ordered its advance in connection with Warren's left. I also ordered Neill to seize the bridge over the Ny to his front and left, where there are some rebel cavalry.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy came on in strong force. I saw three lines, the last being a long one. I am disposing the corps so as to hold the Anderson house position. Possibly the enemy may attempt to turn my left, in which case I may need aid. It strikes me as the critical point.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 14, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT:

Send word to your infantry, now advancing, to be very careful not to fire into my men, who are going toward the house from here; you will lap over them.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 14, 1864.

General WRIGHT:

Can you not put some artillery on the high hill north of the Ny River, at the large house (Anderson's), commanding the position Colonel Upton was driven from?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

Guns can be placed at the point named if directed well. See General Wright, who is at the front, about it immediately.

C. H. TOMPKINS,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I am in possession of the position from which Upton was driven this afternoon, and am occupying it with the First and Third Divisions. The Second I hold near Anderson's to cover the left flank. I shall not attempt bringing artillery farther than Anderson's on account of the unusual difficulties of the ground between the two positions. I beg again to call attention to the danger of the enemy's moving to our left by the Spotsylvania and Massaponax road, either for attack on our flank and rear or to secure a position on the Fredericksburg line. This idea is somewhat borne out by statements of prisoners that the force which attacked Upton, and represented variously as from 1,000 to 3,000 strong, moved off in an easterly direction—that is, by the Massaponax road. I should remark that General Ayres, with his brigade, Fifth Corps, had possession of this position when I reached it.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—If my suppositions as to enemy's movements are correct, this force should be brought back beyond the Ny River to-night. The depth of the stream generally is above the waists of the men, and the country exceedingly broken and tangled.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—8.40 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Sixth Army Corps:

You had better have roads opened to your rear from your advanced position, also toward the Fifth Corps.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

P. S.—You have been confirmed.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864.

Official information has been received that 10,000 re-enforcements are now on their way to this army, and that the Government are pushing forward other troops as rapidly as possible.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

M. T. MCMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 14, 1864—6.25 p. m.

As soon as the troops are formed, they will be moved forward to regain the advanced position from which we have just been driven. The line will be formed with First Division on the right, the Third on the left, and the Second in reserve behind the left. Two batteries will open from the Anderson house just previous to the advance, and a brigade of the Fifth Corps will co-operate on our right. The men will be cautioned to secure their cartridge-boxes in crossing the stream.

By command of Brigadier-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

What is the state of affairs in your front? Please give any news you have.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 14, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Your dispatch is received. General Burnside is just leaving for General Grant's headquarters, and will give the report in person.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding, &c., Chancellorsville:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that a dispatch has been received from Major-General Hancock indicating that a brigade of the enemy's cavalry is on our right. Major-General Meade desires that you will adopt such measures as will protect the trains at Salem Church against any attack of this cavalry. These trains, as well as the Artillery Reserve, have been ordered to proceed to Fredericksburg to-morrow morning.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Haxall's Landing, James River, Va., May 14, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the arrival of my command at this point. The rebel cavalry are very much demoralized since the fights at Yellow Tavern and Meadow Bridge. I encamped at Walnut Grove from 2 o'clock of the 12th till 9 o'clock of the 13th awaiting an attack, but the enemy did not come on. I could not hunt him up, as my horses have been living on grass nearly all the time since I left and were too weak and jaded. Major-General Stuart was badly wounded at Yellow Tavern, and Colonel Pate killed. The loss of the enemy at both Yellow Tavern and Meadow Bridge was very severe. I find that my command was attacked while inside of the intrenchments at Richmond, by two brigades of infantry, and the men feel greatly elated at driving them back behind their works. We remained inside of the intrenchments from 9 p. m. of the 11th till 3 p. m. of the next day, and then whipped the enemy's cavalry and infantry.

The country passed through by my command is entirely destitute; there is nothing for man or animals. All the country north of the James River is in this condition from my best information. It will take me several days to get my command in condition for effective service. I have taken the greatest care of the horses; in fact I have made regular marches, encamping every night, grazing the animals, and collecting supplies for the men. Only three days' rations were taken by the command. This has lasted six days. If I could be permitted to cross the James River and go southward I could almost ruin the Confederacy. I forward this by Lieutenant-Colonel Kingsbury, my adjutant-general, who can give you many particulars, which will be given in my detailed report. Every exertion will be made to get the command in condition as soon as possible. I am sending my prisoners—between 200 and 300—and my wounded by boat to-night. In the report sent you from Bottom's Bridge, giving details of property destroyed at Beaver Dam Station, I omitted to state that ninety wagons were also destroyed.

I am, general, yours, respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Haxall's Landing, May 14, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I shall commence making demonstrations against Richmond on the New Market road to-morrow morning (the 15th), and will continue to do so as long as I remain here, refitting and getting my command in condition.

I am, general, yours, respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 14, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel FULLER:

Your dispatch received. My compliments to General Sheridan. Say to him I think he had better not come over, but should be happy to receive him. Give him all the forage and rations he needs. Tell him I have reliable information from a deserter and a prisoner that to-night there are but 200 men at Chaffin's farm, 13 miles only from where he is, and opposite where I am now fighting. All the rest have been hurried over to fight me. They have no bridge. Can he not take Chaffin's farm?

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

IN THE FIELD, *May* 14, 1864—9 p. m.

General SHERIDAN:

Since I wrote a hurried note to Lieutenant-Colonel Fuller, I have thought best to request you to join me with your command. You can aid us very much in our operations here, and, as we shall soon be joined by Lieutenant-General Grant, you will be able best here to report to him. I wish you might be able to capture Chaffin's farm as I suggested in my note to Colonel Fuller. At any rate, I wish you would do this service to the navy. They are much annoyed by torpedoes. These torpedoes are exploded by means of galvanic batteries on the shore. The person who brings the note will have with him a negro who can give you all information in regard to torpedoes. Please send up a force along the north bank of the James as far as Chaffin's farm, and make diligent search for torpedoes and the wires. Burn any house where such machines are harbored. Capture and bring to me all persons that have anything to do with them. I shall be most happy to see you personally at the earliest possible moment.

Respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Camp at Bottom's Bridge, Va., May 14, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Fortress Monroe, Va.:

SIR: I am now marching from this point to Harrison's Landing to communicate with Major-General Butler. I am out of supplies for my men and animals, and have a large number of wounded. Make arrangements to supply me at once at Harrison's Landing, unless they have already been made. Forward the inclosed dispatch* to Major-General Meade, through the War Department, by telegraph, without delay. There should not be a moment's delay in sending me rations and forage. I have 14,000 animals and 12,000 men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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*See May 13, Part I, p. 776.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1864—10.15 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER DISMOUNTED CAVALRY:

I have the honor to inform you that a dispatch has just been received from Major-General Hancock indicating that a brigade of the enemy's cavalry is on our right. The commanding general directs that you at once notify all commanders of troops with the trains to the rear, that the utmost vigilance may be exercised by all to-night, and every preparation made to meet the enemy, should he make his appearance at Salem Church.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 14, 1864.
(Received 6.30 a. m. 15th.)

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: The Secretary of War directs you not to ship pontoon wagons to Belle Plain, but to leave them at your camp and to turn over your pontoon horses and mules, including those at Belle Plain, to the quartermaster's department. Any pontoon wagons on vessels will be relanded. This order must be executed without delay. Please acknowledge receipt.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Captain Hall, assistant quartermaster, will comply with this order as early as practicable.

H. W. BENHAM.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Washington, D. C., May 14, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I received this morning your orders to have the roads repaired from Belle Plain to Fredericksburg. I received an order yesterday to the same effect from General Halleck, but have been unable to procure transportation until noon to-day. I expect to be at Belle Plain with my command this evening.

Your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., May 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, near Navy-Yard:

SIR: In reply to your letter of yesterday, requesting transportation to Belle Plain for your teams, &c., you are respectfully informed that it will be in readiness at Sixth-street wharf by 12 m. this day. It will be necessary that you use the barges you have on the Eastern Branch on which to load your wagons, as, owing to the great demand for transportation of troops and supplies, it is impossible to furnish others. Please send your quartermaster to Captain Allen, assistant quartermaster, to make the preliminary arrangements for loading your train, &c. It is important that upon your arrival at Belle Plain you cause the boats to be unloaded without delay and turned over to the quartermaster at that point, to be used in bringing up wounded men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. H. RUCKER,
Brigadier-General and Quartermaster.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
Washington, D. C., May 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. O. TYLER,
U. S. Volunteers:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you proceed with your staff to Belle Plain without delay; arrived at that point you will take command of all troops there en route to the Army of the Potomac, organize them into brigades, and move to the front with them as speedily as possible. All troops arriving during your stay at Belle Plain, under orders for the front, you will consider as belonging to your command. Inform Brigadier-General Abercrombie of your instructions.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. TAYLOR,
Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
Washington, D. C., May 14, 1864.

Colonel MURPHY,
Commanding Irish Legion, Alexandria:

COLONEL: Transportation has been provided at Alexandria for your command. Apply to the quartermaster at that post to ascertain at what wharf it lies, and embark without delay. On arriving at Belle Plain report for orders to Brigadier-General Abercrombie. Report by telegraph when you are ready to sail.

Respectfully,

J. H. TAYLOR,
Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
Washington, D. C., May 14, 1864.

Major NILES,
Comdg. Detach. Veteran Reserve Corps, Alexandria, Va.:

Transportation from Alexandria to Belle Plain will be ready at 8 a. m. to-morrow. Captain Lee will designate the vessel. General Augur directs that you proceed with your command to Belle Plain, and upon arrival report to Brigadier-General Abercrombie.

C. H. RAYMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 14, 1864—2 p. m.

Captain PITKIN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Belle Plain:

A courier from General Grant, who had dispatches to be telegraphed to this Department from Belle Plain, reports that he reached [there] last night about 1.30 o'clock and was told by you that there was no telegraph office or line at that place. He came here with his dispatches, which were thus delayed about twelve hours by your incorrect information to him. I desire to inform you that there is now and [has been] for three days a telegraph communication between Belle Plain and Washington. The steamer Diamond is the telegraphic-boat. Mr. Bickford is the operator in charge and Captain Collins, of the Veteran Reserve Corps, at Belle Plain, is the officer detailed to receive and forward dispatches. You will immediately on receipt of this see the persons named, make yourself acquainted with their quarters and where they can be found by day or night, and report to this Department by telegraph that you have received this order and whether you have obeyed it, specifying the hour when you received it, the time and place, when and where you have seen Captain Collins and Mr. Bickford.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 14, 1864—11.50 p. m.
(Received 11.26 a. m. 15th.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch at 11.40 p. m. On the morning of the 12th instant Mr. Bickford informed me that the nearest telegraph office was on steamer Diamond, off Pope's Creek, 6 miles below Port Tobacco, and made arrangements with me to forward at once by boat all important dispatches. I forwarded dispatches on that day, and on each day since. Yesterday Captain Collins informed me that he was detailed to receive and forward dispatches, and I assured him I would forward dispatches for him by boat at all times, and aid him all in my power. Mr. Bickford's office is at this place now; so also is Captain Collins'. I have seen them both to-night. No person informing me that he had dispatches from General Grant or for the War Department since the 12th instant has been told that there was no communication by telegraph between this place and Washington. I knew there was

a telegraph office on steamer Diamond, 16 miles below this place, and so informed all who made inquiries of me, and I have forwarded dispatches for War Department whenever I have been applied to.

Respectfully,

P. P. PITKIN,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., May 14, 1864.

Captain COLLINS,
Superintendent of Dispatches, Belle Plain:

Report on receipt of this telegram (report by telegraph) at what hour you left Washington; when you arrived at Belle Plain; at what hour and where you first saw Mr. Bickford, the telegraph operator; where your quarters are at Belle Plain; what measures, if any, you have taken to inform military officers at Belle Plain of the existence of a telegraph line, and the duties you are charged with. You will also report upon every trip of the Diamond her arrival and departure from Belle Plain. You are expected to be vigilant and diligent in the discharge of your duties. Dispatches from General Grant have, since you reached Belle Plain, been delayed twelve hours, because the courier could find no telegraph officer or station. Report at least every four hours, noting what transpires at Belle Plain. If, at any time, dispatches from headquarters reach Belle Plain in the absence of the Diamond, go immediately to the quartermaster, and call on him for a boat to take the dispatches across the river to the telegraph station. Show him this telegram, as an order to furnish the boat immediately. See yourself that the dispatches are delivered promptly to the telegraph operator at the station, to be transmitted. Report any delay of the quartermaster to furnish the boat.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 14, 1864.

E. L. WENTZ,
Chief Engineer and General Supt. Military R. R. of Va.:

Should you need a small escort in making the examination of the railroad between Aquia Creek and Falmouth, call upon General Abercrombie, at Belle Plain, to furnish it.

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Colonel and Inspector-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., May 14, 1864.

Colonel SCHRIVER,
Commanding at Fredericksburg:

This Department allows no civilian visitors to go to Belle Plain or Fredericksburg, unless to see wounded relatives. Passes have been refused, without exception, to Senators or Representatives. If

any civilian finds his way to Fredericksburg without the pass of this Department or other competent military authority, or to render assistance as nurses or to wounded relatives, it will be in violation of positive orders of this Department, and you are directed to send back such persons forthwith, without regard to individuals. A strict enforcement of this order will be required from you.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HALF-WAY HOUSE, *May* 14, 1864—8 a. m.
(Received 6.35 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We are still before the line of the enemy's works at Drewry's Bluff, Fort Darling. The enemy are here in force. General Gillmore, by a flank movement with a portion of his corps and a brigade of the Eighteenth Army Corps, assaulted and took the enemy's works on the right at dusk last evening. It was gallantly done. Troops behaved finely. We held our lines during the night, and shall move this morning again.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Half-Way House, May 14, 1864—9.40 a. m.
(Received 8.30 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

General Smith carried the enemy's first line on the right this morning at 5 a. m. Loss small. The enemy have retired into three square redoubts, upon which we are now bringing our artillery to bear with effect.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *May* 14, 1864—8.45 p. m.
(Received 12.40 a. m. 15th.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that you will have the Richmond and Danville Railroad cut, if possible.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
TENTH AND EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 14, 1864—11 p. m.

General B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: Your note is just received. I have now but returned from General Sheridan's command. Two days' rations for 14,000 horses and men were at the dock at Haxall's Landing three hours

since. General Sheridan has decided to remain on the other side of the river, and will go out to see you in the morning. He has everything that he requires. I sent his dispatches before dark to be telegraphed to Washington from Jamestown Island. I also notified Colonel Biggs of their arrival. General S. has from 200 to 300 wounded and about the same number of prisoners, who go to Fortress Monroe in the morning. He has also about 300 released Union soldiers, who were captured by the rebels and retaken by the cavalry at Beaver Dam on their way to Richmond. I will send them forward to join their commands.

General S. has thrashed Stuart's cavalry soundly in two engagements, and the latter is mortally wounded and reported dead. General S. has cut the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad in several places; destroyed large quantities of supplies at Beaver Dam; blown up locomotives, cars, ammunition, and, in short, has raised the devil generally. He has been inside the rebel out-works before Richmond, and, with his dismounted men, driven the infantry into their fortifications, and at the same time thrashed Stuart, who was in his rear, while the rebels thought they had Sheridan in a tight place. He spent one night within 3 miles of Richmond, and last night at Bottom's Bridge, and marched leisurely here without opposition. I send you the Times of yesterday containing glorious news. Things look bright and we see daylight in the distance. I have sent an officer with your dispatch to me to General Sheridan, and will telegraph you if he advances on Chaffin's farm to-night.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
May 14, 1864—4 a. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: All has been comparatively quiet during the night. I succeeded in driving the enemy back from my left and rear after Colonel K[ensel] and Captain M. left last night. The caissons supposed to have been captured are all safe, having arrived. I sent one company to Chester Station last night to aid in getting up provisions and ammunition. I shall attack the enemy at daylight.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

MAY 14, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

Send out Onderdonk's cavalry as far out to the left and front as he can demonstrate to watch what is coming or can be found in the direction of Richmond. Tell him to report frequently.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 14, 1864—3 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

I do not desire you to assault the works in front. Why not mass your artillery in the skirt of wood that Major Brooks described? Prevent the enemy from doing anything more to it, and try and turn it; only move promptly.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 14, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding in the Field:

I recommend that Brigadier-General Ames, now at Port Walthall Junction, be ordered to report here to me, with all the command there, except one regiment of infantry and one section of artillery. One-half his colored cavalry, or even all of it, might be left there. If these works are to be turned it must be done in large force.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 14, 1864—8.20 a. m.

General TURNER:

General Terry is in motion with portions of three brigades (eight regiments) to take the position on your left.

Respectfully, yours,

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

MAY 14, 1864.

General TURNER:

The general commanding desires me to say that several hours ago he sent word to you to relieve regiments skirmishing before their ammunition failed. The Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania has sent to these headquarters four different times for ammunition. Will you please relieve it?

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 14, 1864.

General TURNER:

The general commanding desires that you send your ammunition wagons, ambulances, &c., to the opening near Half-Way House, to park for the night, to be prepared for an emergency.

Respectfully,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS.
In the Field, May 14, 1864—8.25 p. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Commanding Division.

The major-general commanding directs that you immediately throw up a temporary breast-work in front of your lines to protect your command in case of an attack, and erect such other defenses as you may deem necessary.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS.
May 14, 1864—5.17 p. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Commanding Second Division, Tenth Army Corps.

I have advanced my skirmishers into the open field, and have sent in four companies from each regiment to support them. The two regiments on the second line are ordered to be ready to move forward at a moment's notice.

Respectfully,

W. B. BARTON,
Colonel, &c.

P. S.—I shall lose heavily unless the other portions of the line advance.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS.
In the Field, May 14, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General MARSTON:

I sent you Captain Reynolds with another company of cavalry. We fear the enemy is attempting to turn our left. I want you to feel well out on the road you came in on yesterday with this cavalry force, supporting them with infantry, if you think proper. Send men well to the right so as to see what they have near the railroad, and connect, if possible, with Onderdonk himself, who has been sent up the railroad. The enemy have a line of works across railroad in our front, and the idea is to turn them by our left.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

MAY 14, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE:

I sent the two companies of cavalry beyond Chester Court-House to the junction of that road with the great highway leading to Richmond. Nothing was discovered except a small picket at that point. The rear of Beauregard's force passed that point at 2 this morning. I also sent a platoon of cavalry 2 miles on the wood road. They have not yet returned. I can find no indications of the enemy on

our left except small picket-posts. General Beauregard advised his friends to leave their homes last night, in the vicinity of Chester Court-House, but they returned early this morning.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MARSTON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTY-NINTH REGIMENT,
May 14, 1864.

Captain DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Div., Tenth Army Corps:

SIR: I have my picket-line from the river on the right and the pike on the left with advanced posts. The battery is placed to command the right and front on the [illegible] in front of the hospital. I have arrested all stragglers, and have [illegible] prisoners [illegible] who tried to get through [illegible] toward Fort Darling. What shall I do with them? I have no way to give them rations, and am increasing the number. They are from different regiments and brigades.

Yours, truly,

H. S. FAIRCHILD,
Colonel, Commanding [illegible].

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 14, 1864—4.45 a. m. [illegible]

Colonel SHAFFER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The night has passed without any disturbance or alarm of any kind. Everything is quiet, and no movements of the enemy at any point on my front.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 14, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department of Virginia and [illegible]:

GENERAL: I send [illegible] dispatch just received from General Weitzel. I am [illegible] guns, and waiting to hear from [illegible] I have [illegible] reported [illegible] can say nothing [illegible].*

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* Not found.

MAY 14, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: I would respectfully suggest that Colonel Onderdonk be sent immediately up the railroad, and rather off to our left, to see what may be coming in that direction. I have heard the cars whistling, and the enemy are reported as feeling our left. This is very important, and should be attended to at once, taken in connection with the rumors afloat regarding re-enforcements sent to Richmond.*

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 14, 1864—9 p. m.

General SMITH:

I think well of the proposed movement upon the enemy's works. I have, therefore, ordered up General Ames' command, with the exception of two regiments, to fill the gap in the line made by taking away the moving column: Ames to be here at 6 a. m. I have also ordered up the Eighth Maine, left below guarding the road at our former headquarters, to report to you. As the Seventh Connecticut has Spencer carbines or rifles I would suggest that regiment should be detailed as skirmishers for the moving column. The choice of troops under your command will be left to your selection for the work. General Gillmore has been ordered to hold himself in readiness to make a vigorous demonstration at the proper moment.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 14, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department of Virginia, &c.

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of 9 p. m. When Lieutenant Michie left here this p. m. I simply requested him to say to you that the only possible chance of carrying the works in front of us, as developed by his reconnaissance, was on the front of the line of rifle-pits between two main works, visible from his point of observation. I did not intend to propose any movement, but simply to indicate to you my opinion as to the only possible point where we could hope for a successful assault on or near my front. If, as I understand from you, you wish an assault made, I have to request that Lieutenant Michie may be ordered here to aid me by his knowledge of the country and properly placing the troops, and also to act as engineer officer for the movement. I will most respectfully and to the best of my ability endeavor to carry out any orders which may be given to me, and, if I am not mistaken in the meaning of your note, will make the assault at as early an hour in the morning as the troops can be

*For reply see p. 141.

formed. If General Ames' brigade is sufficient to freshen the line I shall be obliged to take it for a portion of the assaulting column, to avoid the delay in changing my lines.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General WEITZEL:

The general commanding desires you to select a brigade from your command to form, with two of General Brooks' regiments, an assaulting column, the men to have their coffee and their cartridge-boxes full, ready to move at 5 a. m. to-morrow.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 14, 1864.

Captain ELDER,
Acting Chief of Artillery:

The general commanding desires you to have all of the batteries in position by daylight to-morrow, where they were posted this p. m., reserving one battery of 12-pounder guns, one battery of rifled pieces, and your own section of horse artillery, which will be ready harnessed and kept in park where they now are, subject to further orders.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
Malvern Hill, Va., May 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH:

MY DEAR GENERAL: We are here after many adventures. Can't tell 'em now. Grant has fought some most stubborn battles, holding his own, gaining ground slowly, but not annihilating Lee. If he calls out the reserve at Washington, all right yet. What have you done? Please tell me. Push along, send us something to eat, and get us to south side of James, so that we can get into a region where we can support ourselves. Can't you send me something to eat? Is Bowen with you? I have your last letter with me and want to discuss it with you. I know of nothing more critical or sensible than it. Hope to see you soon. Love to Bowen and god-speed to all.

Devotedly,

J. H. WILSON.

PORTSMOUTH, VA., *May* 14, 1864.

General W. F. SMITH:

DEAR GENERAL: I wrote to you a few days since, but presume that you are too busy to reply. Being buried here, I have more time than

I know what to do with; not but that there is much here to do, but I have no means to do it with. I have asked B[utler] to let me go and resume command of my division. Whether he will accede to it or not I know not, but hope that he may. [In] that case I will be with you. I have been studying your movements and am still of the opinion that I expressed at Yorktown. Unless I am greatly misinformed as to the strength of the enemy, there is no chance of an advance on the south of the James proving successful, unless with greatly increased forces. The line of the North Anna is yet intact. Lee's army, for all that I can see to the contrary, will be mustered behind that line, which, strategically and tactically, is the strongest in North Virginia. It will have to be turned either by Gordonsville or forced at Hanover Junction; to turn it by Gordonsville cannot lead to any important results, to force it at Hanover Junction cuts Lee off effectively from Richmond.

The proper place for Butler's 40,000 men is between Mattapony and Pamunkey, threatening Hanover Junction. Take them there and then something can be done; now they are thrown away, and it is to be feared that Lee, leaving two of his corps on the North Anna, may fall on you with Beauregard's, D. H. Hill's, and the re-enforcements. Are you prepared to meet him? If so, well and good; if not, it will have a very sinister effect on success to meet even with a check. Think well over these things. I am aware that being at a distance, and, of course, ignorant of many things, that I may judge wrongly. If I can get with the army I will endeavor to make my views more apparent to you. I fear, however, that Butler won't let me go from this point. Is it possible to transfer the army from your present position to that point? Or are you strong enough to walk into Richmond? One or the other of these two things must be done. Our success in upper Virginia hitherto has been entirely due to superior numbers and strategical movements. On the field we have been tactically beaten. I fear that Grant is too weak to force the North Anna; if so, the campaign is over for the present, unless something else can be done. Write if you have time.

Yours, truly,

I. VOGDES.
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
City Point, Va., May 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: From the most reliable information I can obtain concerning the reconnaissance made by the rebel general Pickett on Tuesday, the 10th instant, I gather the following: He probably came down from Petersburg in two columns, one composed of two regiments of infantry and six guns by the river road, near Spring Hill, and the other composed of two regiments of infantry and two guns by the middle road, over Cedar Level. These columns united and formed line of battle about a mile this side of Temple's house, and 2 miles from my earth-works. Contrabands state that General Pickett's line when formed was about twice the length of mine on the day before, when I made a reconnaissance with 1,900 infantry and

six guns. Pickett himself made minute inquiries of a contraband whether or not we had lost many men by their shells on Monday on the reconnaissance; and made the remark in the hearing of a contraband that he should not attack the Yankees, but had only come down to gratify the feelings of the people of Petersburg, who were very much excited and alarmed. After remaining in position for about half an hour in my front, Pickett fell back rapidly about dark across Cedar Level. During the day of reconnaissance I was at Fort Powhatan. The enemy did not expose himself at any point to my line of pickets.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDW. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Half-Way House, May 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. W. HINKS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: You are authorized to make the change in the troops indicated. Fort Powhatan is a very important position. Require from my ordnance officer what heavy guns you may need for Fort Powhatan, but get them here soon. I cannot at present spare the colored cavalry, but will as soon as Kautz gets through.

By command of Major-General Butler:

H. C. CLARKE,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

FORT MONROE, *May 14, 1864.*

Lieut. H. T. SCHROEDER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Guerrillas are at work on our line from Williamsburg to Jamestown Island. Two parties which went out to repair the telegraph were fired at, and returned without repairing it. General Carr has sent out a force probably sufficient to accomplish it now. I am afraid the guerrillas may go to Jamestown Island and capture our operators there, and possibly a steamer, if there should be one at the landing. Would it not be well to send up the river from here and look after them?

Respectfully,

GEO. D. SHELDON,
Messenger.

FLAG-SHIP MALVERN,
Near Bermuda Hundred, May 14, 1864—3 p. m.
(Received 1.30 a. m. 15th.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

The Cavalry Corps of Major-General Sheridan, of the Potomac Army, has just arrived at Turkey Island, left bank. They left with

17,000 men, lost heavily on the way, and came from Mechanicsville yesterday. Their timely appearance will relieve us from sharpshooters, and facilitate our operations now in progress for clearing out torpedoes.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral

DEEP BOTTOM, JAMES RIVER, *May* 14, 1864—5 p. m.
(Via Jamestown Island, 15th. Received 7.15 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

The Richmond Enquirer extra, dated 2 o'clock this afternoon, just received by a flag of truce from Richmond, states that nothing of interest occurred on Wednesday. On Thursday, at daylight, our forces made a most vigorous assault on Jones' brigade, of Johnson's division, broke their line, pressed over their breast-works, captured several pieces of artillery and a number of prisoners. At 10 o'clock Thursday our troops made repeated vigorous and unsuccessful assaults on Field's division.

At 2 p. m. Thursday General Grant was making a desperate fight on Ewell's front. The musketry firing Thursday was the heaviest of the war. The battle extended along the whole line, and was fought by our army with more vim and bravery than any other fought on Virginia soil. Rebel Brigadier-General Perrin and Colonel Garnett killed; Brigadier-Generals Walker and McGowan wounded; Generals Ed. Johnson and G. H. Stewart missing, and supposed to have been captured by us. They claim to have captured 2,000 of our wounded at the Wilderness, and that our loss must be much larger than theirs, as they fought behind breast-works and our troops on the open field. General Grant put fresh troops into the fight Thursday.

A second dispatch from Spotsylvania, received yesterday, 13th (received at Richmond to-day), says the battle of Thursday lasted all day. Their loss is reported to be ten times less than ours. Rebel Colonels Baker, Fetter, Harding, and Minor killed. The musketry-fire was so severe that trees were cut down by it. General Grant expressed a determination not to recross the river while he has men left. Our troops were on Friday still in front, strongly fortified, and showed no signs of falling back. In Thursday's fight some of the rebels were bayoneted in the breast-works. Mayor Slaughter, telegraphing from Guiney's Station May 14 (Saturday), says he left Spotsylvania Court-House last evening. All quiet then and now.

The enemy attacked us furiously in our works all day Thursday, and were repulsed with tremendous loss. Our loss comparatively light in killed and wounded. We lost some prisoners and artillery. The armies are still confronting each other. One of General Sheridan's officers reports that Lee's communications with Richmond are entirely cut off.

S. P. LEE,
Acty. Rear-Admiral, N. Atlantic Block. Squadron.

MAY 14, 1864.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE:

We have found one torpedo just opposite the Half-Way House and destroyed the wires; have news of another on the other side, and have requested a force from General Sheridan to search out and destroy this and others on the south bank. The enemy have left North Carolina. They are removing their obstructions in the river above Drewry's Bluff.

Truly, yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
May 15, 1864—10 p. m. (Received 16th.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Their are eight vacancies for brigadier-generals. If you deem it expedient to promote any officer on the field for gallant conduct, you are authorized to do so provisionally, and your appointment will be sanctioned by the President and sent to the Senate.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 15, 1864—7 a. m.
(Received 10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The very heavy rains of the last three days have rendered the roads so impassable that but little will be done until there is a change of weather, unless the enemy should attack, which they have exhibited but little inclination to do for the last week. I believe it will be better to strengthen the corps here with all re-enforcements coming than to have them formed into separate commands. You need not, therefore, send Augur. Please order Major Morton, engineer, to report to General Burnside.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 15, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Army of the Potomac, in the Field:

Telegram from General Sherman, dated 8 p. m. yesterday. Had hard fighting all day near Resaca, but drove the enemy. His forces are all united, and he will attack at all points to-day. Six thousand splendid infantry embark to-day for Belle Plain, with orders to push forward to your headquarters. Each man carries on his person five days' rations and 150 rounds of cartridges.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, *May* 15, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Army of the Potomac, in the Field:

General Butler says that General Kautz was sent on the 12th, with orders to cut the Danville railroad, and also the James River Canal. General Augur estimates that the reenforcements which will be at Belle Plain by to-morrow night for the Army of the Potomac will be at least 24,000. I hope in a few days to increase the number to 30,000.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 15, 1864.

General GRANT:

Burnside has been advised that Birney is under his orders, and to remain there so long as in his judgment the security of his line requires it, but that so soon as he can dispense with him he is to be sent back. I fancy it is only the enemy's cavalry feeling our position.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 15, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have written to the commander at Fredericksburg, and also to General Ferrero, commanding division of colored troops, putting them on their guard about Hampton's cavalry. We now have a large force between here and Fredericksburg, which, if it does its duty, can prevent any serious disaster to our trains. General Burnside just now informs me that the enemy are moving on his right in considerable force, but he does not know yet in what force or for what object. If they move on him, the best possible relief will be to move the whole Army of the Potomac forward from Wright's and Warren's front.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864—8.30 p. m.

[General GRANT:]

GENERAL: Your note in reference to Burnside's right being threatened is received. Warren and Wright have been ordered to be prepared to advance on the receipt of orders, and Hancock has been directed to look to his command. Birney excluded ready to move at a moment's notice.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864.

OFFICER COMMANDING CONFEDERATE FORCES
IN VICINITY OF PARKER'S STORE:

SIR: I would esteem it a personal favor for which I shall be grateful if you will permit the bearer, A. K. St. Clair, assistant surgeon, First Michigan Cavalry, to pass within your lines sufficiently far to obtain the remains of the late Brig. Gen. J. S. Wadsworth, for the purpose of transferring them to his afflicted widow and relatives.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Comdg. Army of the Potomac.

MAY 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. INGALLS:

The commanding general has observed with regret the publication in newspapers of a recent date of two letters or telegrams addressed by you to Senator Nesmith, respecting the operations of this army, and he directs me to remind you that publications of this character are forbidden by general orders, and to say it is expected that no further communications of a similar character will appear in the public prints.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, SECOND CORPS,
Brown's House, May 15, 1864.

Dr. McPARLIN,
Medical Director, Army of the Potomac:

We have about 200 of our own and rebel wounded in the immediate vicinity of the Fifth Corps, whom we would be much pleased to get off if we could. But our ambulances, about twenty-five, are in bad running condition, and as for army wagons, there is no further hope of them. I conclude, or we should have seen some by this [time]. We shall probably be obliged to leave them to the care of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

A. N. DOUGHERTY,
Medical Director.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Captain Clark reports to have seen this p. m. and counted from forty to fifty wagons moving eastward on a road described by Captain Paine, of the Engineers, to be the road running from Spotsylvania Court-House to Massaponax Church. The wagons were seen at a point about 5 miles southeast from the Anderson house.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Acting Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864.

1. The battalion of the heavy artillery now with the Artillery Reserve will at once take post at the intersection of the Telegraph road with the Spotsylvania and Fredericksburg road, some 4 miles from the latter place. The battalion will extend its pickets well on both roads.

2. Two days' rations will be issued to the troops, with the least practicable delay. In this issue two days' salt meat will be included. The wagons thus emptied will be sent to Belle Plain, accompanied by a commissary from each division, to be filled with subsistence stores, excluding meat.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

You will hold that portion of the Second Corps under your immediate command ready to move at a moment's notice.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 15, 1864—1 a. m.

[Lieutenant-Colonel MORGAN:]

COLONEL: Please to inform me whether the pickets of my Third Brigade, posted to the rear of General Birney's right, are to be withdrawn in time to move with the division, or are they to remain until General Birney withdraws his.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

RIFLE-PITS, *May* 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General MOTT,
Comdg. Third Brig., Third Div., Second Corps:

GENERAL: It will be impossible to hold this line longer if the enemy continue their enfilading fire. The men are compelled to be perfectly quiet, while numbers of them are being mangled. Lieutenant Baldwin was just killed by a solid shot. The right has fallen back up to the point occupied by the Fifth and Eleventh New Jersey.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. MCALLISTER,
Colonel Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864—4.40 p. m.

General MOTT,
Third Brigade:

GENERAL: You will at once take all measures to shorten and strengthen the lines of the division from Landrum's house to the right of the Ninth Corps, by using the pioneers. All stragglers should be got up at once, and to this end each brigade commander should send an officer to the rear and through the woods to collect all stragglers and return them to duty.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. BIRNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 15, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Comdg. Third Division, Second Corps.

GENERAL: As the Ny will separate you and Burnside if you go to the hill on this side of the Ny, you had probably better follow the intrenchments, and go in behind General Burnside, which will more certainly agree with the orders. Consult General Burnside as soon as possible. I am massed here sufficiently near to cover this road.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 15, 1864—6.15 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

GENERAL: It is the intention of the general commanding that your pickets be withdrawn entirely as you move to the left, leaving them out only long enough to cover your flank.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 15, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division.

GENERAL: Major-General Hancock directs me to say that his troops are massed here, Harrison's house, expecting to move to the front. If you are threatened you must communicate with General Burnside, who is responsible for the right. The general would suggest that you feel the skirmishers in your front and see what there is behind them. If the enemy have any considerable force on the right it should be known; if the enemy are attempting to pass to your right, the general thinks that your picket-line should be drawn back, so that the right may rest on the river. The position of the regiments at the Brown house the general regards as critical, if the enemy are near you in force, and he thinks a picket-line would answer the same purpose.

The general wishes you would keep him informed as to what is going on, though you are just now directly under the order of General Burnside.

I am, general, very respectfully,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. BIRNEY'S DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Comdg. Second Army Corps.

GENERAL: At General Burnside's request I occupy the position at Landrum's house with one brigade and a section of artillery, and have placed another brigade between it and General Burnside's right. I hold two brigades in rear of General Burnside's right. I picket from the Brown house to General Burnside's right. The enemy's skirmishers followed us up, firing on retiring pickets.

Your obedient servant,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 15, 1864. (Received 12.20 p. m.)

General HANCOCK:

Mott's brigades both gave way at the shelling, leaving my own division alone. I will follow your instructions as to the right.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 15, 1864—12.30 [p. m.].

Major-General BIRNEY:

GENERAL: The order to relieve General Gibbon's pickets did not mean that you were to give up the line, unless you intended to shorten your line, but to replace them, not withdraw them. If you should be ordered by General Burnside to retake the Brown house you can only do it by attacking the left (enemy's) of the rifle-pits. You will have to pass to your right and attack from the N.W. I may be ordered back, or likely, or to the front. I hope you will come out all right; I am sorry for the loss on the picket-line. I can understand why some men should be killed, but if the line was properly ordered back at a double-quick in line, and back to the woods on your side [sic]. Your note says "Mott's brigades both gave way." I fear you mean his and some one else. I wait with anxiety to hear from you. As you are under Burnside's orders you must refer to him for assistance, but I should be glad to know always what you are doing, for as long as I am here I will be able to assist you. The colonels of those regiments that broke under a little shelling and a few scattering shots had better be mustered out of service.

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 15, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MORGAN,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: All is quiet in my front. The line is restored from Burnside's right to the Landrum house, with a picket-line to the river. The enemy's artillery enfiladed my line. Only part of Mott's troops gave way.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS.
May 15, 1864. (Received 5.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel MORGAN:

The right only of picket of Barlow's division gave way, and as the line was in front of General Burnside, could not be found by Colonel McLaughlen. It will be relieved at once and sent in. Those of Second Division have been ordered in.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.
May 15, 1864.

General BIRNEY:

Are the Sixth Corps pickets relieved and sent home? Let me know as soon as possible, and do not forget to relieve the pickets of First and Second Divisions. You ought to have an orderly always at Burnside's headquarters to carry your dispatches.

WINFD S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
May 15, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

The division officer of the day assures me that he relieved all the pickets on our returning. He had positive orders to do so. The pickets of the First and Second Divisions are relieved.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 15, 1864—1.45 a. m.

The command will be in readiness to move at 3.30 a. m. promptly. As the troops to the left are withdrawn, every intervening will be at once filled up by moving to the left in line along the rifle-pits.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. BIRNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIFTH CORPS, *May* 15, 1864—7 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

The enemy have been strengthening their lines during the night at the Court-House, and also show more men than last evening.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report in compliance with instructions from headquarters Army of the Potomac: Number of dead buried by this command, 552; number of dead left on the field unburied, 1,094; total, 1,646.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

FIFTH CORPS, *May* 15, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

The men came up pretty well throughout yesterday, and I am waiting for a field return I ordered some time ago, before reporting my strength. I believe that the force I left on picket on my right flank has not rejoined me yet.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Field report, May 15, 1864:

Fifth Corps headquarters—officers, 13; total, 13. Battalion Twelfth Regiment—officers, 4; men, 130; total, 134. Artillery Brigade—officers, 36; men, 1,038; total, 1,074. Heavy Artillery Brigade—officers, 57; men, 1,966; total, 2,023. First Division—officers, 201; men, 4,036; total, 4,237. Third Brigade, Second Division—officers, 40; men, 883; total, 923. Third Division—officers, 159; men, 2,415; total, 2,574. Fourth Division—officers, 231; men, 3,589; total, 3,820. Grand total, officers, 741; men, 14,057—14,798.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Fifth Corps:*

GENERAL: You will hold your command ready at short notice to advance against the enemy in your front. You will make all necessary arrangements in advance so that no time will be lost in execut-

ing this order when sent to you. General Burnside reports a movement of the enemy to his right and rear. If attacked, he will be supported by your attacks.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Acknowledge receipt.

(Same to General Wright.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864.

General MEADE:

Your dispatch to be in readiness to attack the enemy, dated 3.30 p. m., received at 4.40 p. m.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 15, 1864—4.50 p. m.

General MEADE:

If the enemy comes out and attacks Burnside, would it not be better for me to re-enforce him so as to meet the enemy without cover, than to attack his intrenchments which are in my front?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864—5 p. m.

General WARREN:

Dispatch containing suggestions received. Your orders will be sent to you when Burnside is attacked; in the mean time they are unchanged.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My command has been standing in line of battle since the notice to be in readiness to attack. I will let them make themselves comfortable for the night as soon as the prospect of their being called upon is removed.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that the direction to be in readiness to attack is rescinded.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Wright.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864—9.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you send five days' subsistence to-morrow morning under a flag of truce, if necessary, to the wounded men of your corps left in the hospital at the Corbin house.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

I am directed to inquire whether you have consolidated the Second Division of your corps with any other. The commanding general is under the impression that you have made such consolidation.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864—9.50 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

I have temporarily assigned one brigade of my Second Division to General Cutler and one to General Crawford. The Maryland Brigade I keep under my own orders direct.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 15, 1864.

Captain MARVIN:

SIR: I send this by a man who escaped from the rebels who had him with our wounded. From what he says I think something may be done for our wounded. They are destitute of supplies.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 15, 1864—1 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

I have sent to your left the Fifth New York Cavalry, some 300 strong, and directed the commanding officer to communicate with you. Should he require it give him a brigade of infantry to support him, and let him push out to your front and left, and endeavor to obtain some information about roads and the grounds on which to predicate an offensive move in that direction, which you and Hancock will have to make. Send out and hunt up commanding officer Fifth New York Cavalry, as he may not know where to find you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 15, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I propose advancing my skirmish line as far as the enemy will permit, but cannot advance much unless you push forward the left of yours. Will you do this, keeping up your connection with my line?

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864—12.50 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I wish to advance my skirmish line but can't well do so unless you advance the left of yours. If you will do it, please give the necessary orders for keeping up connection with my right as it advances. I sent you a similar message some time since by an orderly.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 15, 1864.

General WRIGHT:

I have given the necessary order to advance my skirmishers with yours, but even if my orders should fail to be obeyed, you can connect your right flank by putting in men so as to let it extend back to mine. If the advance takes mine out into the open field under the enemy's fire, you will have to do so.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

ORDERS. HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864.

This corps will be held in readiness to move forward and attack the enemy on its front. The movement will be made by the First and Third Divisions, supported by the Second, and in such order that two lines of battery may be quickly formed by each division. The right of the division will be the regulating point. The Second Division will follow in such order and distance as to be ready to support any point in the line.

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
No. —. } *May 15, 1864.*

The general commanding the corps has noticed with regret indications of a failure upon the part of some to appreciate the full importance of the struggle in which we are engaged, and the absolute

necessity for exertion and vigilance far beyond what is required by the mere letter of duty. All that can be given of mental or bodily effort is now required of each of you to make good the sacrifices you have already made. The endurance you have shown upon the march, your gallant bearing, by day and night, attacking or attacked, your heroism on the field, and the soldierly renown you have won, will all have been in vain unless you add the crowning week of final victory. You owe it to your country and yourselves, to your good name as soldiers, to your honor as men, and to the reputation of this army, to complete the work you have begun; you owe it to the memory of the dead, to the noble and beloved leader who fell in your front rank, and to the thousands of your comrades whose freshly made graves mark your onward course from the Rapidan. Let each one exert himself, therefore, as if the final result depended upon his individual efforts. Remember that indifference at this time to anything that may advance the general good is criminal. The general commanding the corps expects that in coming operations every man of his command will rise to a full appreciation of the terrible importance of the contest in which he is engaged, and will prove by his conduct that he is not unworthy to take a part in the great struggle that is to establish forever the power and integrity of the nation.

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

THIRD DIVISION HOSPITAL, SIXTH CORPS,
May 15, 1864.

Captain KING,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, Sixth Corps:

SIR: Last evening a colored man by the name of Solomon Baker, a free man, dressed in the uniform usually worn by rebel soldiers, came into our lines, and he states to me that he has been for the past year a servant to Major Hamilton, of the First South Carolina Regiment. This man seems unusually intelligent, and, from his statements, could give to the major-general commanding some useful and perhaps valuable information. He states that Colonel McCreary, First South Carolina Regiment, was wounded on Friday last, and Lieutenant-Colonel Shooter, same regiment, was killed on the same day. General Longstreet was wounded through his left side on yesterday week, and has gone to Richmond. General Lee was with his troops on Friday, as he says he saw him. According to his statements a major-general of our army was mortally wounded and died (in Confederate hospital) on the second day's fight. I judge from his account that it must have been General Wadsworth, and the body was taken to Orange Court-House and his uniform was to be sent to New York, as General Lee stated that the deceased was a classmate of his. The rebel General Jenkins was killed in the same charge in which General Wadsworth was wounded. The Virginia Central Railroad is cut, and the Confederate army is supplied with provisions procured from Hanover Junction. He also states that some 5 miles of railroad is torn up and destroyed this side of Hanover. He states that the rebel army is rather short of provisions. He states also that on yesterday the rebels were apprehensive of an

attack from some of our forces upon their rear, and that they were fronting toward Richmond. (I do not know enough about military matters to understand the latter portion of that. But those are his words.) He states that the rebel General Thomas was killed yesterday, General McGowan's left arm was broken, General Scales is missing; cavalry General J. E. B. Stuart is slightly wounded but still on duty; General Pettigrew wounded, but on duty; Colonel Brown, Fourteenth South Carolina Regiment, killed. If this man could be escorted to army headquarters he could perhaps impart some useful information. He exhibits every evidence of sincerity. If he is required I shall expect him to be returned to me, as I have employed him, he not being a slave. Please excuse this pencil scrawling, as I cannot procure ink.

I am, captain, &c.,

CHARLES E. CADY.

Do not consider this as an official communication, but merely a statement of facts.

C. E. C.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864.

DR. CADY:

SIR: The general commanding the corps desires that you send the colored man referred to in your letter of this date to headquarters Sixth Corps. The bearer will conduct him.

Very respectfully,

ADAM E. KING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864—8.10 a. m.

General JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report no particular change along my lines; all seems quiet. Is there any information of importance from the other portions of the line?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 15, 1864—10.40 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

General Birney will not be taken from you until it is intended to make another attack. You should prepare to hold the right by yourself when that takes place. All quiet on all parts of the line.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

BURNSIDE'S,
May 15, 1864—11.56 a. m.

General RAWLINS:

The enemy's skirmishers are in possession of the Brown house, and have a battery in position which enfilades our line to a point about opposite my headquarters. I have directed General Birney to hold the Landrum house with one brigade and a section of artillery, if possible. If he is driven out, it will make it very hard to hold the line which we now occupy if the enemy attacks in force. Colonel Babcock will soon be at your headquarters and explain the position. There are not sufficient indications yet to determine in what force the enemy is advancing. As soon as it is determined, I will let you know.

By order of General Burnside:

F. VAN VLIET,
First Lieutenant, Third Cavalry, Acting Aide-de-Camp.

[Indorsement.]

[General MEADE:]

Would it not be well for General Birney to drive the enemy from the Brown house, referred to in this dispatch, and hold the place until something is decided upon? My opinion now is that our next attack should be from Wright's position, be supported by Hancock, with Warren and Burnside ready to advance from where they are, if any strong impression is made by our attack. Preparatory for such a movement, Wright's and Hancock's staff officers should now be gathering all the information they can of the approaches to the enemy's line from Wright's front and left.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

What is the cannonading about apparently on your right?

MEADE.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 15, 1864—12.05 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The cannonading is in General Birney's front. General Burnside has just gone forward to see what it is.

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864—12 m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

What is the condition of affairs now with Birney?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS.
May 15, 1864—12.45 [p. m.].

General MEADE:

Dispatch received. Have just returned from Birney's line. Two or three of Mott's regiments broke, making a gap in the line, which has since been filled. One of Birney's brigades holds the Landrum house, which is important at this time. We will intrench from our extreme right to the River Ny as soon as possible and traverse our main line against an enfilading fire from the vicinity of Landrum's house; in the mean time it would be well for Birney to remain where he is, if possible.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864—1 p. m.

General BURNSIDE:

Birney is under your orders. Of course you will detain him as long as his presence is necessary to the security of your line. I should like him returned whenever in your judgment he can be spared.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

The lieutenant-general commanding directs that you at once commence the line of intrenchments on your right flank, preparatory to the withdrawal of General Birney's division. You will be notified of his withdrawal.

By direction of Lieutenant-General Grant:

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Our pickets on the right report a strong column of the enemy moving to my right. It is yet impossible to say in what strength or with what object.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 15, 1864—3.05 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Is the enemy crossing the Ny? If not, you will no doubt be able to hold your position, or at least the position marked out by the engineers this morning, by bringing Birney within it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS.
May 15, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Dispatch received. There are no indications at present that the enemy are crossing the Ny. We will probably be able to hold our own. General Birney's right strikes the Ny River at a point opposite the deserted house on the other side of the river, which house is about or nearly on a line from your headquarters to Landrum's house. If that point can be occupied by a brigade and a battery, it would be of great service to us in case of an attack. I mean the point on which the deserted house stands.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I am inclined to think that the point designated as the deserted house in my last dispatch should be occupied as soon as possible. It is reported that the enemy are passing to our right and aiming for that place. There is supposed to be about a brigade passing.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

[Indorsements.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES.
In the Field, May 15, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General Grant refers the within dispatch of General Burnside to General Meade, with the suggestion that it might be well to watch from the deserted house with cavalry, and if a brigade moves on that point, to attack it with a division.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

Major-General Hancock will occupy the deserted house with such force as he may deem necessary to comply with the within suggestion of the general commanding.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864—4.40 p. m.

General BURNSIDE:

General Gibbon's division has been sent to the deserted house. I have no surplus arms and accouterments with this army.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 15, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

The Army of the Potomac, except Birney's division, which is with you, have all been notified to advance and attack the enemy in case you are attacked by him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 15, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I am throwing up a line of rifle-pits from your right to Landrum's house, thence to Ny River, connecting there with General Gibbon. I can hold the line.

Yours, respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

EXTREME LEFT OF LINE,
May 15, 1864.

[General BURNSIDE?:]

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I drove the Thirteenth Virginia Cavalry on to the Telegraph road about 1 mile. They appeared to be 300 to 500 strong. I therefore returned back to the line. They are picketing toward the ford, and from appearances will endeavor to hold the ford. There is no infantry this side of the river, and very little to be seen on our left, the other side. The battery has moved away, so it is not visible.

I remain, your most obedient servant,

JACOB H. DEWEES,
Major 13th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Comdg. Cav. on the Left.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, May 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Near Tabernacle Church, Va.:

GENERAL: The enemy's cavalry, under Wade Hampton, is said to be in our rear, between Old Wilderness Church, Fredericksburg, and your position. Do you hear through your pickets anything of it? Keep a sharp lookout for this cavalry, and if you can attack it with your infantry and cavalry, do so.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

MAY 15, 1864—3 p. m.

General SHERIDAN:

You will bring your command at once across the river to Bermuda Landing, then march it on to the ground near Howlett's house, and between that and the railroad, encamp it there, and give your horses rest. No more duty on horseback will be required of you than to picket your own position and the approaches leading thereto. The utmost dispatch in getting to your position is desired. Quartermaster will supply transportation and forage.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 15, 1864—3 p. m.

General SHERIDAN:

You will turn over all your disabled and unserviceable horses to the quartermaster at Bermuda Landing, by him to be turned out to graze in the neighborhood there for the purpose of recruitment. You will at once make all the necessary requisitions upon the quartermaster, commissary, and ordnance officer, to the end that we may send to Fort Monroe for supplies.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 15, 1864.

Major LUDLOW,
Chief of Cavalry:

You will report to General Sheridan. He will put under your charge such cavalry force as you may need with which to cover the banks for torpedo workers, as far up as possible.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG.
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires me to inform you that he will be away this a. m. to visit General Butler.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. F. HAYDEN,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., May 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding Belle Plain:

You will afford every facility to Captain Collins, of the Veteran Reserve Corps, specially detailed at Belle Plain to the duty of receiving and transmitting dispatches between this Department and Army of the Potomac. You will yourself report by telegraph to this Department at 8 a. m. and 8 p. m., specifically stating the operations within your command.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 15, 1864.
(Received 9 a. m. 16th.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

SIR: Your telegram received at 3.30 p. m. to-day. Every facility will be afforded Captain Collins—two messengers, one at 6 a. m. and one at 12 m., for the army general headquarters daily. Every effort is making to get the telegraph done to the point to-night.

General Tyler arrived 2.30 p. m. to assume command of all troops ordered to the front. Wounded still coming in, and shipped as fast as the facilities, which are limited, will allow. A rebel brigade of cavalry reported from army headquarters on Hancock's right. I have strong infantry and cavalry posts as far as Fredericksburg. Secretary and Assistant Secretary of Navy arrived here at 3 p. m. and left at 4. Colonel Hoffman with them. The engineers are repairing the road, and Potomac Creek bridge commenced. Troops sent forward, 6,000; detained for defense of post, guarding 7,078 rebel prisoners, assisting wounded, furnishing details for quartermaster's department, assisting telegraph operators, and many other indispensable duties, 2,220 infantry, 1,000 of whom are raw recruits and straggling detachments from Camp Distribution. Two hundred and twenty-two cavalry for messengers, picket, &c., and one battery of artillery, eight 12-pounders, 150 men.

Yours, very respectfully,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS.
Belle Plain, May 15, 1864.

General AUGUR:

I beg leave respectfully to state it is indispensably necessary a small depot should be established here to supply the wants of the troops, &c., at this station and on their way to the front. Captain Clark is in charge of the forage; Captain Jones, land transportation; Captain Pitkin has more than he can properly attend to superintending transports. The services of Captain Lacey are very much required as post quartermaster, and for that purpose I have sent the captain to obtain the stores required.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 15, 1864.
(Received 7.15 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

SIR: I have the honor to report, in obedience to your telegram just received, that I left Washington at 7 p. m. on the 12th instant, being necessarily delayed till this hour by an accident to boat in which I was to go at the moment of starting. I arrived at Belle Plain at 7 a. m. 13th instant by gun-boat Leslie; reported to Colonel Hoffman at 9 a. m. 13th instant, not being able to find him sooner. I delivered the papers put in my charge. I saw Mr. Bickford this 8 a. m., not being able to find him until this time. I am quartered in a tent on the most prominent point, near the quartermaster's wharf. Have informed all the principal officers at this post of the duties with which I am intrusted, and where I could be found. I have made arrangements with the quartermaster here for the use of a tug at any time I may need it. I am dependent upon General Abercrombie for messengers to Lieutenant-General Grant's headquarters. All dispatches for Lieutenant-General Grant are

transmitted through General Abercrombie. I will report as per instructions every four hours, noting everything of importance that transpires at this post. I have requested General Abercrombie to send me at once 30 mounted men for messengers to headquarters. The Diamond has just left for Pope's Creek this 12.15 a. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. D. COLLINS,
Captain, V. R. C., in charge Mil. Tel., Belle Plain.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 15, 1864—8 a. m.
(Received 11.20 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to report that no dispatches have been received from Lieutenant-General Grant; no courier arrived from front since 4 p. m. yesterday. Steamer Pentz arrived here at 6 a. m. loaded with horses, mules, and wagons. Nothing else of importance has transpired. Diamond has just arrived from Pope's Creek.

Very respectfully,

A. D. COLLINS,
Captain, Veteran Reserve Corps.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 15, 1864—1 p. m.
(Received 4 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to report the non-arrival of dispatches from Lieutenant-General Grant's headquarters. Sent Diamond to Pope's Creek with dispatches at 9.20 a. m. Will have direct communication by wire with your headquarters to-morrow night, if not delayed by some unforeseen accident. Have a fatigue party of 30 men putting up poles from this point to point on the river about 6 miles where wire crosses river from Maryland shore. Capt. L. N. Smith, commissary of subsistence, reports that he has answered all estimates for subsistence stores that have been presented, and has stores and facilities to fill future estimates. Steamer Pentz has just left for Washington with 3 U. S. officers and 30 U. S. soldiers wounded, and 42 sick and wounded rebels. I send dispatches per tug Young America at 1.15 p. m.

Very respectfully,

A. D. COLLINS,
Captain, Veteran Reserve Corps.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 15, 1864.

OMMANDING OFFICER,
Fredericksburg, Va.:

The rebel cavalry under Wade Hampton being now in our right rear in the neighborhood of Old Wilderness Tavern, and having no cavalry here to send out to meet it, you will picket with the cavalry

at your disposal as far in that direction as possible. If you can meet this with yours or with a mixed force of infantry and cavalry do so. Report to General Meade or myself all you learn and as soon as possible the movements of the enemy in our rear.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fredericksburg, May 15, 1864.

CHIEF OF STAFF,
Lieutenant-General Grant's Headquarters:

GENERAL: I have to acknowledge the receipt of Lieutenant-General Grant's communication of this date, informing me of the presence of the Hampton cavalry on our right, and directing me to picket in that direction, and to meet it with a mixed force of infantry and cavalry. In reply I beg to assure the general that all proper measures shall be taken, but I must say I have but 120 infantry, and the cavalry are not to be depended on. A force appeared this morning on the Telegraph road (horsemen), and I have been obliged to keep quite a large number to watch the movement in that direction. The demands on me for escorts, patrols, messengers, &c., are numerous, so that the available force at my disposal is very small for other purposes.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General, Commanding.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 15, 1864.
(Received 4 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

About 6,000 troops have been forwarded to General Grant from this point. No news of interest from the army this morning.

Respectfully,

W. HOFFMAN,
Commissary-General of Prisoners.

BALTIMORE, *May* 15, 1864.
(Received 3.45 p. m.)

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Colonel Porter's regiment, Eighth New York Artillery, left here this morning at 11 a. m., with orders to report to Major-General Augur for transportation to the Army of the Potomac.

LEW. WALLACE,
Major-General.

BALTIMORE, MD., *May* 15, 1864—8.30 p. m.
(Received 9.15 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Eighth New York Artillery went forward to-day. The One hundred and forty-fourth, One hundred and forty-ninth, and Seventh Ohio Militia have arrived. If you can let me retain the latter, can send to the front a veteran Maryland regiment of infantry.

LEW. WALLACE,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 15, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General WALLACE,
Baltimore, Md.:

The Secretary of War directs that you will immediately send forward to this place, for embarkation to the Army of the Potomac, the following troops: The Purnell Legion—cavalry and infantry; the Third Delaware Volunteer Infantry; the First Delaware Cavalry, and the Ninety-fourth New York Veteran Volunteers. Colonel Root will remain in command at Annapolis, Md. The place of these troops will be supplied, so far as you may deem necessary, by Ohio militia. In the mean time General Morris' artillery will take their places. The troops here ordered should move promptly. Brigadier-General Lockwood will accompany them, with orders to report to General Grant. They should have five days' provisions and 150 rounds of ammunition. A prompt execution of this order is expected.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 15, 1864.

Colonel ROOT,
Commanding Officer at Annapolis:

Prepare the Ninety-fourth New York Veteran Infantry to move at once, whether other troops are furnished you or not. Orders will be given you when and where to send them. You will remain at Annapolis.

SAML. B. LAWRENCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHAMBERSBURG, PA., *May* 15, 1864.

Major VINCENT:

The Twenty-first Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry will leave Chambersburg for Washington at 6 a. m. 16th instant. The One hundred and eighty-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers is scattered throughout the department, on duty at the different draft rendezvous and district provost-marshal's headquarters and coal regions. Have ordered all to concentrate at Harrisburg. I have no troops to replace those at draft rendezvous. Will await instructions in regard to them.

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 15, 1864—1.30 a. m.
(Received 7 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

Telegram of 13th [14th] in relation to Danville railroad received. General Kautz was sent out for that purpose Thursday, May 12, also with directions to cut James River Canal, if possible. Please telegraph General Grant.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *May* 15, 1864.
(Received 11 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS, *Quartermaster-General:*

The arrival of Sheridan's command at Haxall's increases the number of animals to be foraged about 14,000. In anticipation of some emergency of this kind, I have been forwarding all the forage I could spare to Bermuda Hundred, and have enough to last five or six days. I do not know how long we shall have to forage these horses. Colonel Thomas informed me that forage was abundant. I therefore request that our supply be largely increased.

H. BIGGS,
Quartermaster.

BERMUDA, *May* 15, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

General Sheridan said that he would send a force toward Richmond this morning, and if there was anything at Chaffin's farm he would chase them out. They seem confident that they can go anywhere and do most anything.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

MAY 15, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FULLER:

You will take the disabled horses of the command of General Sheridan and pasture them in the best grounds near Bermuda Landing.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 15, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: I would like to get a little nearer to you. Let me run a line to the front and if we should have to fall back it will be but the loss of a few miles of wire. I wish to make the telegraph efficient regardless of trouble, expense, or danger.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICHD. O'BRIEN,
Chief Operator.

BERMUDA, *May* 15, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

Steamer Webster has arrived from Alexandria with Fifth Massachusetts Regiment of colored cavalry (dismounted). Shall they disembark here, or be sent to City Point to report to General Hinks?

GEO. S. DODGE,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 15, 1864—9.12 a. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER, *Commanding Department:*

GENERAL: The earth-work on the enemy's right to our left of the railroad, on which they were at work yesterday, has been occupied by artillery within the last hour. Cavalry has also been seen moving to our left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
May 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

SIR: The general commanding desires that you order a portion of the engineer troops to the front for the purpose of making fascines and doing other duties pertaining to engineer operations. The general desires that this may be done with the greatest dispatch.

With much respect, I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

F. U. FARQUHAR,
Captain, U. S. Engineers.

GILLMORE'S SIGNAL STATION,
May 15, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have ordered that the advanced lines of Terry's and Turner's divisions be somewhat reduced in strength by gradually withdrawing some of the men to save unnecessary loss of life. I shall not change the position of any regiment. I have ordered some of Onderdonk's cavalry to go out on the Chesterfield Court-House road as far as possible. My loss in Terry's division yesterday and day before, and Turner's yesterday, will reach 700.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 15, 1864—10.25 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER, *Comdg. in the Field:*

From a man who worked on the fortifications in our front, as well as those we have taken, I learn that the most formidable line of

defenses lies in rear of the batteries which now confront us. Such was the condition one year ago. I have not heard anything more of the cavalry moving to our left. Two or three companies only were seen. Six pieces of artillery also moved in the same direction. Onderdonk is out on my left. When he reports I will at once notify you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864—3.40.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

GENERAL: I have directed the engineer force of Tenth Corps, which has just joined me, to commence making siege material in accordance with your direction, communicated through Captain Farquhar.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
May 15, 1864—12.10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,
Commanding Second Division:

There seems to be no special change in my front, except that the field piece there yesterday has been removed this morning, and a stronger infantry force displayed. Our battery on the left seems to have an oblique (almost an enfilading) fire on the enemy's works.

Very respectfully,

W. B. BARTON,
Colonel Forty-eighth New York Vols., Comdg. Second Brig.

MAY 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

GENERAL: Major-General Smith desires me to say that as he expects every moment to receive orders to make an assault, "I wish you to leave in your first line as small a reserve as possible, and send your other regiments close along General Brooks' rear, to report at these headquarters, to be posted so as to cover my right in case of disaster."

Respectfully,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 15, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Gillmore for instruction.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.

Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS.

Referred to Major-General Butler. General Turner reported to me with his command yesterday morning.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Third indorsement.]

The troops I expected to cover my right flank while the column of assault was moving are not under my orders. Can General Gillmore spare Marston's brigade to come back to me?

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 15, 1864—11.55 a. m.

General TURNER,
Commanding Second Division, Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you immediately organize all regimental, brigade, and division trains, under charge of proper staff officers, which trains are to be used for bringing up supplies. When rations, forage, or ammunition is needed word should be immediately sent to the proper staff officer in time, that they may be brought up for distribution to the troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ISRAEL R. SEALY.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 15, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I left the Thirteenth Indiana and One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers at the Junction. The Twenty-first Connecticut was the one I sent to General Weitzel, in obedience to orders to send a regiment to him about an hour ago.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I have the One hundred and twelfth New York and Ninth Maine here with me. The Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania is back on the road, under General Butler's orders. The Eighth Maine has reported to General Turner this morning. The Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania and the Sixth New Hampshire were detached yesterday or the day before.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 15, 1864.

General GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: All is right here. I have just received orders from General Terry to picket the left, communicating with Salem Church. Two troops of my regimen are now stationed at the latter place.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. ONDERDONK,
Colonel, Commanding Mounted Rifles.

MAY 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General BROOKS:

GENERAL: Major-General Smith desires you to leave one regiment of your second line near the turnpike and to send the colonels of the other regiments of the second line to report to me at once.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, JAMES RIVER, *May* 15, 1864—12 m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 1 p. m. 16th. Received 1.30 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Major-General Butler, who I hear is attacking Fort Drewry, informs me that the rebels are removing their obstructions above Drewry's Bluff. Rebel flag-of-truce officer told Lamson yesterday afternoon the rebel iron-clads, well fitted for ramming, would be down in a few days. Three iron-clads here, and Canonicus coming from Turkey Island Bend. Command in fine spirits.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM, DEEP BOTTOM,
May 15, 1864—10 a. m.

General BUTLER:

Your telegram received. Flag-of-Truce Officer Morris, from Richmond, told Lieutenant Lamson, Navy, their iron-clads will be down in a few days with great ramming power. Shall be ready for them. We find many torpedoes here. We want to follow up the torpedoes by the wires, so don't break them if you can explode them. Richmond extra of 2.40 p. m. Saturday: General Grant fought them a great battle on Thursday last. Never before such vim and bravery on our part. We captured prisoners and artillery from them, and had the most killed and wounded, as they were behind breast-works and we fought in the open field. This is their account. They only claim 2,000 of our wounded, captured at the Wilderness; no other prisoners and artillery. They say our men bayoneted them behind their breast-works. I think they have lost largely in prisoners. It was great fighting on the part of our army. They say General Grant is intrenched before them and will not fall back. No fighting Friday. We are working up the river hard.

Yours, truly,

S. P. LEE.

U. S. STEAM-SHIP AGAWAM, TRENT'S REACH
James River, May 15, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

Your dispatch answered by signal corps. Enemy vigorously intrenching on the heights at Howlett's, under a destructive fire from gun-boats. They will doubtless mount guns to-night to command Trent's Reach. Only a land attack can dislodge them. River falling. Careful soundings to-day show [that we] cannot cross this bar.

S. P. LEE,
Actg. Rear-Admiral, Comdg. North Atlantic Block. Squad.

P. S.—4 p. m. The rebel artillery has appeared on the heights at Dutch Gap.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 15, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

SIR: Some days since I was informed by General Butler that I might not be able to communicate with him for some time as he would be actively engaged in the field, and I have considered it proper to address you directly in relation to matters here, in order that you may be in possession of precisely the state of affairs in this district. A very few days after the capture of Plymouth I was ordered to relieve General Peck in the command of this district, and General Butler, at the time of sending me the order, urged upon me the imperative necessity of sending to him every man that could be spared from my command; that he expected at least four of my best regiments. Plymouth was gone. The rebel ram Roanoke was a very formidable affair, and there was danger of her getting into the Sounds. Roanoke Island, Hatteras, New Berne, Morehead City, and Fort Macon, with the railroad, ought to be held at all hazards, but Little Washington, then threatened by the victorious rebels from Plymouth, was of no strategic importance. It took quite a force to hold it, while one or two gun-boats holding the Pamlico and mouth of Tar River would accomplish the same purpose.

I determined to concentrate as much as possible to hold the places first mentioned to the last, and to evacuate Little Washington. This movement was successfully performed; all of the men, stores, and munitions safely brought away, together with all of the Union people who chose to leave, and the contrabands. The force required by General Butler was sent to him, and it arrived, as he informed me, in good time and in good order. I found myself at this time with about 4,800 men aggregate here. Roanoke was re-enforced with a few companies of artillery, and a respectable re-enforcement to the naval forces which was to act in the Sounds made me feel that Roanoke was safe from the ram. The dispositions for resisting further attacks from the enemy were made not a moment too soon. The naval re-enforcement had scarcely reached Roanoke Island before the ram came out of the Roanoke River, drove away the smaller vessels, and gave battle to the larger ones near the island.

These captured one of the vessels that came down with the ram, and after a severe fight drove the ram back into the river in a crippled condition.

At the same time a land force, consisting of three brigades, with about thirty pieces of artillery, made its appearance in front of this place. An attack was commenced on the north side of the town on the evening of the 4th, which I was convinced was a feint. On the 5th the communication by the railroad was cut off and some artillery was planted on it some 2 miles from town. The artillery was silenced by our railroad monitor and the gun-boats, but on the morning of the 6th an impudent demand was made for the surrender of the place, as the messenger said by command of General Hoke. This was of course refused, and the same day the whole force left for Kinston, and I have not heard from them since. They captured a small force of about 50 men of the Fifth Rhode Island Heavy Artillery at a station on the railroad, and that was the extent of the damage done by them. Their loss cannot be ascertained precisely, but they suffered considerably from our artillery fire.

It then became necessary to put my command into complete fighting shape. The North Carolina troops I considered useless unless they were placed at some point where they could consider themselves secure from capture, as the execution of the Carolina troops at Kinston had very much demoralized the whole of them. They would have been useless to General Butler, and I have placed them all in the Sub-District of Beaufort, where, as they feel secure, they will, I hope, become reliable. The immense amount of contrabands with the white refugees required attention, as they were a great drag upon me. They have been provided for as well as possible, and I am gradually getting everything "shook into shape." I shall very soon feel not only perfectly secure against any force that may be sent here, but I hope to also be able to worry the enemy by threatening points of the railroad in the interior

The papers state that the Roanoke ram is destroyed. This is not so; she is still a most formidable foe, but I have every confidence in the naval force watching her. I have had quite a number of torpedoes placed in the mouth of the Roanoke, and a secret expedition to blow her up is now being formed. To guard against the Neuse ram threatening this place from Kinston, I have had the river carefully blockaded, torpedoed, &c., and I shall make an effort to blow her up also. Both General Butler and Lieutenant-General Grant have expressed their entire approval of the evacuating of Little Washington. The fire that occurred there was an unfortunate affair. Every effort was made by the officers and men to extinguish it. I still hope to catch the villains that set fire to the buildings.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 16, 1864—8 a. m. (Received 3.40 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

We have had five days' almost constant rain without any prospect yet of its clearing up. The roads have now become so impassable

that ambulances with wounded can no longer run between here and Fredericksburg. All offensive operations necessarily cease until we can have twenty-four hours of dry weather. The army is in the best of spirits and feel the greatest confidence in ultimate success. The promptness with which you have forwarded re-enforcements will contribute greatly to diminishing our mortality list and in insuring a complete victory. You can assure the President and Secretary of War that the elements alone have suspended hostilities and that it is in no manner due to weakness or exhaustion on our part.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, May 16, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Near Spotsylvania, Va.:

A new regiment of Pennsylvania cavalry ordered here. I propose to dismount the men and send them forward as infantry. Shall I give the horses to veteran cavalry, Army of the Potomac, or send them to General Sheridan, who asks for 1,000 horses? Railroad from Aquia Creek to Falmouth can be repaired in eight days. Shall it be done? General Sherman defeated the rebels yesterday, and a part of his force has crossed the Oostenaula River. Our loss about 3,000 in all. A messenger just arrived from General Sheridan. He is at Haxall's Landing, on James River, and has received supplies for men and horses.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, *May* 16, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT.
Near Spotsylvania, Va.:

There is considerable dissatisfaction in the artillery and cavalry regiments sent forward as infantry, especially in the latter. I respectfully recommend that they be put in old brigades and divisions in the front. One successful fight will remove all dissatisfaction, and, if not, dissatisfaction will do no harm there. Sherman still successful.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, May 16, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Near Spotsylvania:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I think you will concur with me that Meade and Sherman should be made major-generals of the army, and Hancock and H. G. Wright should be made brigadier-generals of the army in their places. Of the four I think Wright has the

most solid intellect, but as he has before won less distinction than the others, he should be put at the foot of the list. If you would write a letter to the Secretary of War urging these promotions I think they would be made. I do not wish to see these vacancies left so long unfilled, lest outside political influences may cause the President to fill them by the promotion of persons totally unworthy. I know that influences have been exerted in favor of a man utterly unfit to hold any commission in the army. After your splendid victories almost anything you ask for will be granted. The case may be different if you should meet with reverses. I therefore ask that, if you concur with me in the recommendation, you will urge them now. I think you would fully appreciate the importance of doing so, if I were at liberty to tell you who is a candidate for one of the vacancies.

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 16, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: You will send to Belle Plain early to-morrow morning all your Reserve Artillery and the ammunition belonging to it, trains, &c.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Your note requiring the Artillery Reserve of this army to go to Belle Plain has been received. Do you intend to include the six batteries of Horse Artillery which are the reserve of the Cavalry Corps artillery? There are now six batteries with the cavalry, but it has been the practice hitherto to exchange them, thus giving the horses rest and increasing their efficiency. Please let me know as soon as convenient.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding:

I have ordered Gibbon to move out to the right far enough to withdraw our hospitals, uncovered yesterday by Hancock's with-

drawal. I hear some firing in that direction, which is probably his. He was instructed to move with caution, and if the enemy was found in heavy force to withdraw.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The medical director of this army reports an accumulation at Fredericksburg of over 6,000 wounded, for whom some provision must be made, as the condition of the road to Belle Plain renders it out of the question to transport them there as originally designed. General hospitals must be established unless there is some probability of the navigation of the Rappahannock being opened, in which case they could be carried away. If the army should be detained any time in this vicinity it might be well to put in order the Fredericksburg railroad, to do which to Hamilton's Crossing will take, per estimate of chief quartermaster, from ten to twelve days. If the enemy dispute the passage of the Pamunkey or either of the Annas this road would be useful.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 16, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Asst. Adjutant-General, Armies of the United States:

I have the honor to request that the following-named officers be appointed brigadier-generals in the volunteer service for distinguished gallantry on several occasions in the face of the enemy: Col. J. R. Brooke, Fifty-third Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers; Col. N. A. Miles, Sixty-first Regiment New York Volunteers; Col. Joseph Hayes, Eighteenth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers. Independent of the conspicuous bravery they have exhibited on the field of battle, the above-named officers are in all other respects well qualified for the position for which they are recommended. Colonels Brooke and Miles have for a long time past commanded brigades with marked ability, and have repeatedly been recommended for promotion.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—8.15 a. m.

The following dispatch has been received from the lieutenant-general commanding, and is respectfully communicated to corps commanders for their information.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 16, 1864.

GENERAL: I have heard from Sherman to 8 p. m. the 14th. He then occupied Dalton and Resaca, having turned Johnston's position. There was fighting all day on the 14th, resulting in contracting the ground occupied by the rebels, and in bringing all of Sherman's force together. The battle was to be renewed yesterday. Sherman says he is ready to attack at all points. I have returns of troops sent from Washington and ready for shipment. The re-enforcements for this army to this time is 24,700 men. This is exclusive of about 3,000 for the garrison of Belle Plain.

Yours,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 136. } *May* 16, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Each six-gun battery in this army, except the Horse Artillery and Taft's New York Independent Battery, will at once be reduced to four guns, retaining all its caissons. The surplus ordnance stores and horses will be sent to Belle Plain to-morrow and turned into the proper departments at that place. The batteries of the Artillery Reserve will be distributed as follows, after sending back the surplus guns: To the Second Corps, Major Hazard with Clark's (B, First New Jersey), McKnight's (Twelfth New York Independent), and Burton's (Eleventh New York Independent). To the Fifth Corps, Major Fitzhugh, with Bigelow's (Ninth Massachusetts), Hart's (Fifteenth New York), Sheldon's (B, First New York), Barnes' (C, First New York). To the Sixth Corps, Lieutenant-Colonel Monroe, with Brinckle's (E, Fifth United States), Stevens' (Fifth Maine), Hexamer's (A, First New Jersey) and Ewing's (H, First Ohio). Taft's Fifth New York Battery will report to-morrow to Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps. The batteries transferred from the Reserve will join their corps to-morrow. Lieutenant-Colonel McGilvery will remain in charge of the general ammunition column, with the staff officers attached to it. When the distribution is effected Colonel Burton will report to the commanding general of this army for further instructions.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
May 16, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Our men who went out on the right on Friday (from Armstrong's house) returned last night. They learned that no re-enforcements had come to General Lee's army, and that trains were running on the Fredericksburg railroad to Milford Depot, whence General Lee draws his supplies. They captured and brought in a member of General Stuart's signal corps, who belongs to a party that has been engaged in watching our movements on the Rappahannock and Potomac.

They had a station between Fredericksburg and Port Royal, on the Rappahannock; one on the other side of the Rappahannock, whence couriers and other agents went to the Potomac, and got as far as the mouth of Potomac Creek, to observe our movements. They are perfectly familiar with everything we have lately done in that direction, and up to night before last had reported to General Stuart that four large steamers with troops for the Army of the Potomac had arrived off Belle Plain. They had also conveyed intelligence of all the movements of steamers and transports down the Potomac.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

MAY 16, 1864.

GENERAL: The Phillips Legion of Cavalry is near Shady Grove Church; also, some 20 cavalry have crossed at Voorhees' Mill, above our right. I drove them back. No infantry in sight. I have no ammunition.

CLINE,
Chief of Scouts.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 130. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *May* 16, 1864.

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III. General Orders, No. 19, current series, from these headquarters, assigning artillery to divisions for the campaign, is hereby revoked, and the artillery of the corps will remain consolidated, under the direction of the commandant of artillery. Division commanders desiring batteries at any time can obtain them on application to the commandant of artillery.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *May* 16, 1864.

A considerable part of the tools that have been loaned division commanders for intrenching purposes have not been returned, and many, it is known, have fallen into the hands of the enemy, who is in want of nothing so much as intrenching tools. At the same time, it is very important for our own operations that all property belonging to the corps should be retained. Division commanders are therefore especially requested to take pains that no tools are lost or destroyed beyond the necessities of the service.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 16, 1864—4.15 p. m.

[General HANCOCK:]

GENERAL: I have advanced three-fourths of a mile beyond the Hicks house. A few men, evidently on the lookout, seen. They disappeared on our appearance. Birney and Mott should be cautioned to be ready to advance in the direction of the Brown house should any force appear to threaten my rear, as I have directed my last brigade left at the deserted house.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded to Major-General Burnside.

General Gibbon is rescuing the wounded of the Fifth and Second Corps.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: The inclosed is sent for your information.* If it becomes necessary to jeopardize the connection with our right, please let us know in time to prepare for it.

I have [informed] General Potter.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864—5 o'clock.

Major-General BIRNEY:

My impression is that you had better occupy the high hill across the creek on the road we came, and the hill this way, putting some pickets in your front and right, connecting with General Burnside.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864—8.40 p. m.

At 5 a. m. to-morrow, 17th instant, the Second Brigade, Colonel Crocker, will relieve the Fourth Brigade, General Mott, in the front lines. General Mott will mass his command, when relieved, in rear of the center of the division, ready to support any part of the line.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. BIRNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Inclosure not found.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—11 a. m. (Received 12 m.)

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: You will please push out your skirmishers and pickets, properly supported, to feel the enemy and ascertain whether there is any change in his position. It is not designed by this movement to bring on a general engagement with the enemy in his works.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to General Wright.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Dispatch to push out my skirmishers just received. They are already out to the edge of the open field, and cannot well be advanced farther. There seems to be no change in the enemy's position. I sent Major Roebling with a sketch to explain everything to you before your dispatch came.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

In reply to this General Warren was ordered to push out and report developments.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864—12.35 [p. m.].

Major-General MEADE:

As any further advance will most probably bring on a shelling from the enemy's batteries, I require a little delay to get out my wagons, which are issuing supplies to the troops, having but a short time ago arrived. If I may refer to it, Colonel Comstock was just here and thought we had already developed the condition of affairs in our front. I shall make immediate preparation to advance my skirmish line as ordered.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

As Lieutenant-Colonel Comstock is of the opinion an advance on General Warren's front is unnecessary, the question is referred to the lieutenant-general commanding. His orders now are to advance.

GEO. G. MEADE.

[Second indorsement.]

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

All I wanted was to be assured that the enemy retained their old position, or, if they had taken up a new one, to find where it was.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Dispatch received. Get your wagons out of the way before you draw the enemy's fire. Suggest to Colonel Comstock that he telegraph to General Grant from your headquarters the condition of affairs in your front, and if General Grant will modify his orders to me, mine to you shall be modified.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 16, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

I am getting everything ready, and the wagons are moving off. Colonel Comstock left here about 12.45 p. m. Perhaps a copy of my dispatch to General Grant will suffice, but in the mean time I shall not stop my preparations, nor delay when ready.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

You need not advance your pickets.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—1.45 p. m.

General WARREN.

I have ordered General Gibbon, with his division, to advance so as to cover the ground now occupied by your hospital, so that your wounded can be withdrawn. Please direct your medical director to make the necessary arrangements, and send him to Gibbon with all your ambulances. Gibbon's headquarters are at the deserted house this side of the Ny.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864—4.20 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

When the cannonading began on the right, about 4 p. m., the enemy immediately began to pack up his shelters and get into line, but all the tents were left standing.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

I beg leave to state that concurrent opinions from every one point to Col. Joseph Hayes, of the Eighteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, as deserving promotion. He has been wounded in the head, but can return to duty in a few days, if not at once.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—6 p. m.

General WARREN:

I wish you to make your arrangements for occupying the ridge indicated by Major Roebling with the necessary batteries, and supporting them with a force—a division at least—of your corps. Your corps will be employed in supporting the batteries where you now are and at the new position. Have all necessary roads and such other preparations as can be made in advance without attracting the attention of the enemy.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Chief of Artillery:

We are directed to prepare a location for batteries where you and Colonel Wainwright went this morning. Can you let us have three rifled batteries from the Reserve to put there? We shall be ready for them at daylight. All our rifled guns have good positions elsewhere.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 16, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The necessary preparations are easily made to place batteries at the point directed by you, and will be well supported. I have asked General Hunt to send me three rifled batteries from the Reserve.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 16, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that you are authorized to order home in a body, on the 31st of the present month, for muster out and discharge, the officers and men of the

several regiments of Pennsylvania Reserves whose terms of service are about expiring, subject to the condition, however, that the officers and men of the Reserves who, under the decision already given, are entitled to their discharge before the 31st of May shall agree to serve with this army until that date. The 31st of May has been selected as being about the average date of discharge of the regiments to be discharged between now and the 20th of June.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 16, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Your communication of to-day, in relation to the discharge of the Pennsylvania Reserves, has been submitted to them. The Eighth, whose time expired yesterday, will not accept it. It is not ascertained whether those who will have to stay over their time to comply will do it or not. General Crawford says he thinks it doubtful. Shall I send off the Eighth Regiment? There are only about 75 of them.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864.

General WARREN:

You are authorized to send home the officers and men of the Eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Reserves, whose terms of service have expired.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding:

I have started 113 ambulances and 140 wagons to bring in our wounded from the Cossin house, and have given directions to have supper ready for them at the present hospitals. I shall go out myself to hasten the removal.

JOHN J. MILHAU,
Surgeon, Medical Director.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH MARYLAND VOLUNTEERS,
May 16, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: There is a prevalent, well-authenticated report that there are numerous expressions of yourself and members of your

staff in circulation, which indiscriminately condemn and denounce officers and men of the so-called Maryland Brigade. Whilst I am fully aware that I have no right to censure you or your staff's actions or remarks, I beg leave to be allowed to submit to you a few facts, which might perhaps give you a better opinion of the material, or at least of part of it, in question. The little command to which I belong, *i. e.*, the Eighth Regiment Maryland Volunteers, had reported on the morning of the 5th instant 347 combatants, and accounts now for 94 casualties out of this number, among which 3 color bearers and two entire sets of color guards, besides 1 captain killed, who seized and waved and held the colors after they were shot down twice in the assault of the 8th instant. Moreover this regiment never yielded an inch of ground before ordered to do so, and never showed the slightest hesitation to go wherever commanded to go. I admit that there may have been things amiss with some of the officers and men, but, general, I implore you not to punish by disgrace those who do not deserve it. I dare tell you, and bring it to test, that our colors and regiment were as close, and closer, to the rebel works as any other regiment of your corps or the Army of the Potomac on the same spot where we were ordered to charge. I also offer myself and my regiment to any future test, and not as braggadocio, but as proof how bitter I feel a sting which I do not believe we deserve. I state that I have in my possession testimonials of my behavior in the battle of Antietam and other occasions, and that I, even in this campaign, attracted the attention of Lieutenant Mead, of General Robinson's staff, by my efforts to rally the men of the brigade after our first engagement in the Wilderness. General, if this letter is treason, punish me for it accordingly; if not, please cause to be removed the unqualified stigma on the Maryland Brigade.

I have the honor to sign myself, very respectfully,

E. F. M. FAEHTZ,
Major Eighth Maryland Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER MARYLAND BRIGADE:

SIR: I have just received a communication from the major commanding the Eighth Maryland Regiment complaining of censorious remarks made indiscriminately upon the command by myself and staff. There is an error in this. The only fault I have found with the command was common to the whole division, which fell back so unnecessarily, as I think, at the time General Robinson was wounded. But I can allow for their confusion in so unexpectedly falling upon a line of battle of infantry while pursuing a force of flying cavalrymen. I have retained the brigade under my own immediate control ever since, and shall not cease to give them my personal attention. I fully believe the brigade can do honor to its State, and I shall take care that the opportunity is afforded, and that it shall be a good one. I wish you to assure the command that I and my staff do not rate them as unworthy, nor shall I speak of them except in favorable terms so long as they maintain their organization in so trying a campaign.

I feel especially anxious to have them achieve some marked success, and have no doubt they will when a fair chance is offered. Their losses and trials already secure to them honorable mention.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 22. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *May* 16, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Have your wagons gotten back across the Ny River and parked conveniently as soon as you can, and dispose your troops to support an advance of our skirmish line to develop the enemy's force. This will undoubtedly bring on us the fire of the enemy's batteries, so that the troops must be disposed in lines, not masses. Generals Cutler and Griffin will place proper supports to their skirmish line, if not there already, and report their readiness to advance as soon as ascertained.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *May* 16, 1864.

Hereafter the pioneers of this command will always remain with their respective brigades unless detailed away for some special purpose, and they will be reported on field returns and the regular reports as present for duty equipped, and can be sent to the front if needed.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 16, 1864—9 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

Push out whenever you think you can make a lodgment on an advanced position. Communicate the same to General Cutler on your right. It is important to develop the whereabouts of the enemy very soon. I am going to our extreme right.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., FIFTH CORPS, *May* 16, 1864.

Captain MERVINE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Division, Fifth Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state for the information of the general commanding that many of the men of my command are without shoes—some entirely barefoot. I trust the requisite steps may be taken to supply the necessary demand with as little delay as possible.

I am, sir, very respectfully, &c.,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864. (Received 2 p. m.)

Captain MORROW:

I have the honor to report that I have strengthened my skirmish line and sent one regiment, 300 men, to support it. My troops are all formed in lines and my wagons sent back across the river, and wait the orders of the major-general commanding the corps.

Very respectfully,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 199. } *Washington, May* 16, 1864.

By direction of the President Maj. Gen. Horatio G. Wright, U. S. Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the Sixth Army Corps.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

Have you made good roads between Jett's house and Beverly house, where Warren is? An officer has just told me your people are slashing timber between these places, and rather obstructing the communications. Please inquire into this.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864. (Received 1.35 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Roads to the rear from Myers' house have been opened, and roads to connect that position with Warren's left were ordered and commenced yesterday, and I presume completed. Have sent to ascertain. The chopping referred to was in front of Russell's position. He was making slashings to strengthen his front.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Dispatch of 11 a. m.* just received. I had already pushed picket-line forward without opposition, and will now advance it till it feels enemy. From the Anderson house I can see plainly the rebel works in front of Warren's left and my right. At that point there are two lines of intrenchments.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

*See Humphreys to Warren and Wright, 11 a. m., p. 816.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Has any intelligence been received of Colonel Grant's confirmation as brigadier-general? I wish to assign him as such if proper to do so.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864. (Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I hold bridge at Anderson's Mill with infantry. Have sent cavalry to hold Smith's Mill crossing and all roads back to Massaponax Church. A negro man says he heard rebel cavalry, driven away from Anderson's Mill last evening, say they were ordered to Bowling Green. The following distances are, I believe, pretty reliable: Anderson's Mill to Court-House, 3 miles; Anderson's Mill to Massaponax Church, 1½ miles; Anderson's Mill to Smith's Mill or Telegraph road, 1 mile; Smith's Mill to Massaponax Church, by Telegraph road, 2 miles; Smith's Mill to Court-House, 7 miles by a road leaving Telegraph road and running in parallel direction with that from Anderson's Mill to Court-House. All these are dirt roads.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—1.10 p. m.

General WRIGHT:

The Secretary of War has telegraphed Lieutenant-General Grant that all pending nominations of officers of this army with the exception of Brigadier-General Carr have been confirmed. Don't you think you had better push your cavalry to your left and front to examine the country as far as the enemy will let them go, instead of having them to the left and rear. I think you need feel no anxiety about your flanks. Did a regiment report to you yesterday from Lieutenant-General Grant in addition to the Fifth New York that I sent?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General WRIGHT:

Warren reporting no change in the enemy's position and some in his front, and that he cannot well advance his pickets to any good purpose, he has been authorized to hold on. The same considerations will govern you. If you are satisfied the enemy are in force in your front, and have not changed position, it is all that is necessary.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864—1.55 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Dispatch of 1.10 received. I have ordered the cavalry to cross Anderson's Mill bridge, and move toward the Court-House, still holding Smith's Mill bridge, on the Telegraph road. The cavalry regiment referred to has just been reported, and will be sent with the rest.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864. (Received 2.55 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I can't advance the extreme right of my picket-line, but the left has been gradually moving out for some time. Colonel Hyde, whom I sent out with the cavalry, reports that he had a skirmish with about 300 cavalry on the Guiney's Station road, and drove them back toward the station and down Telegraph road. He represents the road from Abbott's to Massaponax Church, that from Anderson's Mill, and the Telegraph road as all good. He also ascertained that a brigade of rebel cavalry, one of the regiments being the Ninth Virginia, left Massaponax Church after dark last night for Hamilton's Crossing by a road to the right of the Telegraph road. Distance from Abbott's to Massaponax Church 1½ miles. I am holding Anderson's Mill crossing with a regiment of infantry. The bridge at this point is not good, but the ford is practicable for artillery and wagons.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 16, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The cavalry party sent down the road from Anderson's Mill to the Court-House has returned, after proceeding about 1½ miles from the mill, meeting nothing but cavalry pickets. The officer sent with it represents the country as generally wooded as far as he went, and was told that it was of similar character to near the Court-House. My infantry picket-line now reaches that road about one-half mile from the river. Nothing but cavalry has been seen on that flank.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIFTH NEW YORK VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
Near Smith's Mill, May 16, 1864.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, SIXTH ARMY CORPS:

I have just returned from a scout to within 2 miles of Guiney's Station. I think there is but a small force there of cavalry. The 2 colored men I sent you report the cars having left there to-day with two regiments of infantry, and two pieces of artillery, and a large number of wounded for Richmond. I have also pushed one squad-

ron across the bridge at Smith's Mill, 1½ miles. They fell in with a regiment of cavalry and one piece of artillery, which they used on our men and then retreated. No infantry was to be seen.

J. HAMMOND,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Fifth Regiment.

MAY 16, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

I have official notice that up to yesterday 24,700 men had sailed and were ready to sail from Washington to re-enforce this army. This number is exclusive of about 3,000 for the garrison of Belle Plain. Butler had carried the outer works at Fort Darling. Sheridan has cut both railroads leading from Richmond; had whipped Stuart's cavalry, and had carried the outer works at Richmond, besides whipping the infantry sent out to drive him away; thinks he could have gone into the city, but not knowing our operations, nor those of Butler, did not know that he could stay; therefore went on in pursuance of his orders. Crook has cut the New River bridge, and destroyed all the stores at Dublin. I am in hopes he is now in Lynchburg. Sherman flanked the enemy, and drove him out of Dalton. He was south and southwest of Johnston at 8 p. m. the 14th, and intended to attack him at all points yesterday.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Thanks for your dispatch, and congratulate you upon your glorious successes. We will do everything possible to arrange this line so as to hold it with one corps. If everything remains quiet, I should like to visit your headquarters this p. m.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

We have been making some reconnaissances this morning in our front. If not inconsistent with your plans, I propose to find the position of the enemy with artillery, and feel him with small columns of attack.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 16, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch of this date just received. You are authorized to make the reconnaissance you suggest. I see no objections to your visiting these headquarters this p. m.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

We have no change to report on our line. The line is intrenched from our right to the river opposite the deserted house, but is too long to occupy without the assistance of Birney. Is it the intention that the line should be still further contracted so as to occupy the whole of it with the Ninth Corps? In doing so the line which we would have to take would be very weak. Are there any material changes in the other parts of the army? Our corps is in good condition.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 16, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Birney will not be taken from you until it is intended to make another attack. You should prepare to hold the right by yourself when that takes place. All quiet on all parts of the line.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 16, 1864—1.45 p. m.

General BURNSIDE:

I have directed Gibbon to advance so far that we can withdraw the wounded left in the Second and Fifth Corps hospitals. It would be well for Birney to advance his skirmishers in co-operation toward the Brown house, and hold the rifle-pits at the Brown house until Gibbon has withdrawn.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va.,
May 16, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will send to Belle Plain early to-morrow morning all your Reserve Artillery and ammunition belonging to it, trains, &c.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

General Meade has been similarly directed.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864. (Received 4.50 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The firing from our front is merely to cover a reconnaissance, which was replied to by a few shots only. I have not as yet heard the result.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 178. } *Washington, May* 16, 1864.

1. Capt. James St. C. Morton, Engineer Corps, is hereby relieved from duty in the Engineer Bureau and will report in person without delay to Major-General Meade, commanding Army of the Potomac, for assignment to duty with Major-General Burnside, U. S. Volunteers, commanding Ninth Army Corps.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH CORPS,
Spotsylvania Court-House, May 16, 1864.

Governor AUSTIN BLAIR,
Jackson, Mich.:

Michigan regiments of this division have been engaged in several skirmishes and three general engagements. They have all done well, some of them splendidly. Their losses since crossing the Rapidan to this date have been—killed, 161; wounded, 722; missing, 540. Total loss, 1,423. Will you please use every means in your power to hurry up all re-enforcements to these regiments? I think we are on the high road to success.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Howlett's, May 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you send one regiment and the pioneers of your division to Jones' Bridge over the Chickahominy and repair said bridge. You will send this detail without delay. If you require them, more tools can be sent you from these headquarters.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 16, 1864—8 a. m.
(Received 11.30 a. m.)

WAR DEPARTMENT:

Seven hundred rebel prisoners go to Point Lookout this a. m. Wounded still coming in, being shipped as fast as possible. Major-General Hunter arrived here at 8 this morning and left immediately for headquarters of the army.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Post.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 16, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 12.30 a. m. 17th.)

WAR DEPARTMENT:

In addition to the troops from General Tyler, mentioned in dispatch this morning, the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin, 900 strong, and the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, 1,500 strong, in all 2,400 strong, have reported to General Tyler, and go on to the army to-morrow. Sixteen captured guns and about 275 [illegible] rebel prisoners are here. A guerrilla party of about 60 men were [illegible]overed collecting 3 miles from our picket-lines. A sufficient for[illegible] sent to capture or disperse them. The result is not known [illegible]hour.

J. [illegible]BERCROMBIE,
Brigadi[illegible]eneral, Commanding.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding, Belle Plain:

Direct General Tyler to forward such of his troops as have reached Belle Plain immediately, and forward all others arriving as fast as they land. Small bodies get along more comfortably than large ones, and then, too, we get the benefit of re-enforcements from day to day.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. SETH WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that Brig. Gen. R. O. Tyler has arrived at this post and has taken command of the following troops: Seventh New York Heavy Artillery, First Maine Heavy Artillery, Fourteenth Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Second New York Heavy Artillery; in all about 6,700 men fully equipped and armed. General Tyler will probably leave here with his command to join you to-morrow afternoon or early on the following day. I have just received information of a body of rebels collecting in front of me, about 4½ miles from this post. I have sent enough cavalry

to capture them if possible, or drive them off. A detachment of General Tyler's command, guarding about 1,000 stragglers, leave for General Patrick's headquarters this p. m. They will probably be in to-morrow night. I would be glad if their orders met them on the road.

I am, general, your very obedient servant.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE.
Brigadier-General, Commanding Post and Defenses.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE.
May 16, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. R. O. TYLER.
Commanding Reinforcements, Belle Plain:

Inclosed find copy of a communication to Brigadier-General Abercrombie.* I want and must have the whole of your command here by to-morrow night at farthest. If your troops have not yet all arrived at Belle Plain, you must bring forward by that time without fail such as have arrived, leaving the remainder to follow as fast as they land.

U. S. GRANT.
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *May* 16, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General
(Care of Captain Pitkin, Belle Plain):

You will please direct your attention to the sufficiency of the guard over the rebel prisoners, and give such order as you think the service requires. You will, while at Belle Plain and at Fredericksburg, consider yourself the ranking officer in command and issue such orders as the police and safety of either place may require. You will go to Fredericksburg and inspect the different branches of the service there. Leave your address at the telegraphic station, and when ready to return report for orders before leaving Belle Plain. If you need any instructions, or find they are needed in any branch of the service, please report by telegraph.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General MEIGS,
Belle Plain or Fredericksburg:

Please make strict inquiry as to the report that Slaughter, mayor of Fredericksburg, captured some of our wounded and delivered them over to the enemy some days ago. It was said that he was arrested and placed in the guard-house. If he has been guilty of any disloyal act and has not escaped, have him placed in irons and forwarded here to General Augur under guard.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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*See p. 828.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 16, 1864.
(Received 11.30 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

SIR: I have the honor to report that we have communication with Washington in less than two hours. Sent forward mounted couriers with dispatch to Lieutenant-General Grant this 3 a. m. Several barges and four or five steamers arrived last night; nothing else of importance transpired here. Steamer Spaulding is loading with prisoners, per tug Belger, at 8.30 a. m.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. D. COLLINS,
Captain, &c.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 16, 1864.
(Received 9 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

SIR: I have the honor to request instructions relative to the following interrogatory: Have I the right that is delegated to operators, viz, to acquaint myself with contents of dispatches, or so much of them as to enable me to order the mounted couriers to take the trot or gallop? The following steamers departed at noon: New Jersey, S. R. Spaulding, with prisoners for Point Lookout. Arrived since 6 p. m., George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Lizzie Baker, with troops and horses. The services of the Diamond are no longer required. The line will be complete to this point by morning.

Very respectfully,

A. D. COLLINS,
Captain, Veteran Reserve Corps.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 16, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER, *Military Governor, Fredericksburg.*

General Abercrombie wishes you would dispatch a messenger from your headquarters to this place at 6 a. m. and 12 noon, so that constant communication can be kept up. Any message from General Grant, of course, will come by special messenger. There is a telegraph line for official dispatches at a point 6 miles below this place, but we send all dispatches from this place by boat to telegraph station. Please inform me in your next whether you get a countersign from the Army of the Potomac.

I have the honor,

R. L. ORR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

BALTIMORE, MD., *May* 16, 1864—2 a. m.
(Received 2.10 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

The One hundred and sixty-third Ohio Militia left for Washington before your dispatch was received. Can it be returned immediately? General Lockwood and his troops will be at once forwarded.

LEW. WALLACE,
Major-General.

MAY 16, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK:

Before receiving your last dispatch I had ordered the Seventh Ohio to report to General Morris for garrison duty at Fort McHenry. Shall I change the order?

LEW. WALLACE,
Major-General, Commanding Middle Department.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 16, 1864—1.05 p. m.

Major-General WALLACE,
Baltimore, Md.:

If the Seventh Ohio is a volunteer regiment send it here. If it is militia you can keep it. No Seventh Ohio Militia has been reported to me.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 16, 1864.

Major-General WALLACE:

The One hundred and thirty-first Ohio Militia is on the road, and should reach Baltimore to-night. One regiment has been ordered from Harper's Ferry; one more is to come from Ohio, making you five in all. This force is deemed sufficient.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. MIDDLE DEPT., 8TH ARMY CORPS.
No. 124. } *Baltimore, May* 16, 1864.

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7. Brig. Gen. Henry H. Lockwood, having been relieved from command of the Third Separate Brigade by General Orders, No. 40, will assume command of such troops as may be ordered to report to him, and proceed without delay to the Army of the Potomac and report to Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant.

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By command of Major-General Wallace:

SAML. B. LAWRENCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BALTIMORE, MD., *May* 16, 1864.
(Received 12 m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I am directed to lead three regiments of infantry and one of cavalry, to report to Lieutenant-General Grant. One of these is now at Port Tobacco, Md. Shall I concentrate at Alexandria or at Aquia Creek, or where?

H. H. LOCKWOOD,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 16, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. H. H. LOCKWOOD,
Baltimore, Md.:

Troops at Port Tobacco can march to Smith's or Maryland Point, and be ferried to Belle Plain. Other troops are sent from Washington by transports to Belle Plain.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BRIGADE EN ROUTE,
Baltimore, Md., May 16, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER NINETY-FOURTH
NEW YORK VETERAN INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS:

You are hereby directed to bring your regiment by railroad to Annapolis Junction without delay, and there await orders from me. Report by letter to me on your arrival at the Junction.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
HENRY H. LOCKWOOD,
Brigadier-General.

BALTIMORE, MD., *May* 16, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. E. B. TYLER,
Relay House:

Brigadier-General Lockwood requests that you will send a courier forthwith to Colonel Graham, at Port Tobacco, and direct that officer to move his command to Belle Plain, Va., by steamer, and there await orders, instead of going to Washington, as previously ordered.

GEO. V. MASSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General KENLY,
Wilmington, Del.:

Send Captain Clayton's company of cavalry and the company of the First Eastern Shore Maryland Infantry, to report here at once to General Lockwood. Let them both come by train to-morrow. Issue 150 rounds of ammunition and five days' rations. A company of militia will be sent to you to-morrow.

SAML. B. LAWRENCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SAINT MARY'S DISTRICT,
Point Lookout, May 16, 1864.

Lieut. J. MIX,
Comdg. Cavalry Detachment at Leonardtown:

LIEUTENANT: The report of a detective in this district, referred to me by General Butler, complains that the detachment under your

command is too lenient toward blockade-runners and secessionists who keep good liquor, and that they are not sufficiently active in detecting contraband trade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, Comdg.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
May 16, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Company I, One hundred and forty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, now at Philadelphia, will be ordered to join its regiment. Battery I, Independent Company Pennsylvania Volunteers, now in Philadelphia, will be ordered to Washington, to report to General Augur.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CHAMBERSBURG, PA., *May* 16, 1864.

Maj. T. M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There is one company of cavalry in the coal regions which cannot be relieved at present without manifest injury to the service. Will forward it as soon as I can supply its place. Eleven full companies, fully mounted and equipped, marched at 6 a. m. via Frederick for Washington.

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SAINT MARY'S DISTRICT,
Point Lookout, May 16, 1864. (Received 10.35 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have been notified by Colonel Hoffman that 10,000 prisoners are to be sent here, making 15,000 in all. It might be prudent to add one or two militia regiments to our present force.

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops.

FORT MONROE, *May* 16, 1864.
(Received 5.30 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

Colonel Shaffer, chief of staff, sends immediate demand for 300 more teams and wagons, and 200 additional ones in a few days. Says the army is much embarrassed for want of them. I hear General

Sheridan's command, comprising 14,000 animals, are to remain. Our supply of forage should be at once increased accordingly. When will the teams for which I have sent leave Washington?

HERMAN BIGGS,
Colonel and Quartermaster.

[MAY 16, 1864.]

Mr. O'BRIEN,
Telegraph Operator.

Bring your line within the intrenchment at once.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 16, 1864—6 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

The enemy has advanced from his works on our right and made a vigorous demonstration there. A rapid movement on the left would, I think, carry his lines in your front. Make it at once.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 16, 1864—7.07 [a. m.].

Major-General BUTLER:

Since my dispatch of 6.40 the enemy have made two assaults on General Terry's front in force, and have been repulsed. No troops have been taken from my front.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

MAY 16, 1864—8.20 [a. m.].

General BUTLER:

Two regiments have already gone to re-enforce General Smith. No others are moving.

GILLMORE,
General.

MAY 16, 1864—9.30 [a. m.].

General BUTLER:

I am forming line of battle in the brush in rear of my old position.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

General Gillmore is ordered to hold the roads and left on turnpike.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

General Gillmore has lost all connection with me. I have done my best to inform him of the movement necessary for the safety of this command, supposing the reports to be true of the re-enforcements crossing the river.

WM. F. SMITH.

[Third indorsement.]

I am falling back on two roads between the railroad and pike.

Q. A. GILLMORE.

MAY 16, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

Why falling back? Lieutenant Davenport reports no fighting at Ware Bottom Church nor on our right. I sent him back to see and report.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

MAY 16, 1864—11 a. m.

General Gillmore must bring his command with promptness on to the turnpike to cover the movement of General Smith to the right. This is the third order to this effect.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 16, 1864—2.15 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

Advance two regiments of Turner's reserve line to the Half-Way House to relieve the regiments there of General Brooks' command. You are expected to hold the turnpike and cover the left of General Smith while his corps advances by the right.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.
Major-General.

Acknowledge receipt with hour of reception.

B. F. B.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 16, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Your order to send two regiments to the Half-Way House to relieve whatever force General Brooks may have had there, has been received and carried out. The balance of my command is where you directed it to be put, covering General Smith's left and rear. I judge from the artillery fire in my front and left that the intrenchments which I was ordered to fall back upon this morning have been reoccupied by the enemy.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

MAY 16, 1864—3.05 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

Your dispatch notifying me that my order as to your position and the two regiments is received. You received no order from me or any member of my staff to "fall back from intrenchments" till after you had sent me a dispatch that you were falling back on two roads. Upon comparing dates Colonel Kensel did not leave with the order to "hold the roads" until after your dispatch was received, and the order he carried was originally written "why falling back?"

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
May 16, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The signal officer at the Half-Way House reports that a brigade of infantry and a regiment of cavalry are seen moving to the left of our position. They are near the brick house. If I get further information I will send it. The two regiments ordered to Half-Way House by you are there.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division, Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you retire within the intrenchments with your command, take up your old position, and get your command together as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

(Same to General Turner.)

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
May 16, 1864—3 p. m.

General TURNER:

If no one is found to whom the colored cavalry are ordered to report, assume command of them yourself.

By order of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 16, 1864—1 p. m.
(Received 2.48 p. m.)

General GILLMORE:

I am in position and can retire at any time. Shall I retire by my right flank? I have two roads by this route which takes me by Howlett's. I think this is the route for me to take. Do you think the enemy are at Howlett's? Please send me at what hour I shall commence my movement.

Respectfully,

JNO. W. TURNER.
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
May 16, 1864—5 p. m.

General TURNER:

Put your command in motion at once, and march slowly toward the intrenchments. General Terry will be in your rear. Take in all your men, stragglers, sick, and wounded. Take the main road by way of the pike and the first cross-road.

By order of General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ON THE LEFT, *May* 16, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I am at Mrs. Clay's on the old turnpike. No firing in our front. I have ordered the line forward. An officer on the pike, not far from where it crosses the railroad, was fired at. The rebels had formed a line of battle on this side of the creek and on the railroad, and were making preparations evidently for an advance up the new turnpike.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES.
Brigadier-General.

MAY 16, 1864—11.45 a. m.

General AMES:

Press that force across Swift Creek and develop its strength so that we may know what may be done with it.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.
Major-General, Commanding.

NEAR WALTHALL JUNCTION, *May* 16, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I have pressed the enemy back to the hills beyond the crossing of the pike and railroad. There he has taken a position

and is now shelling my advance. The size of my force and the long front I cover do not justify, in my opinion, an effort to attempt to force the enemy from his position. His artillery fire has ceased.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

NEAR CROSSING OF RAILROAD AND TURNPIKE,
May 16, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I am occupying the position held by us before we fell back from this front. A reconnaissance to the Appomattox shows but a small force in that direction, which fell back as our cavalry approached. I am occupying the railroad by cavalry pickets; the pikes by infantry. The rebels have about one battery of artillery. I cannot tell the amount of infantry. When I drew my advance back out of sight, their fire (artillery) ceased. I think they are not disposed to advance upon us. Am collecting and posting my men.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

A battery of rebel artillery and three regiments of their infantry are reported on the rising ground east of Port Walthall Junction and south of Bake-House Creek. All quiet.

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 16, 1864. (Received 4.15 p. m.)

General HINKS:

Captain Dollard came in from a scout two hours ago. He went beyond Temple's; he saw nothing but the usual pickets on the Petersburg road.

DUNCAN,
Colonel.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 30. } *City Point, May* 16, 1864.

I. Col. J. B. Kiddoo, Twenty-second Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, will, with his regiment, proceed at once to Fort Powhatan, where he will relieve Colonel Stafford, Tenth U. S. Colored Troops, in command of the station. Colonel Stafford upon being relieved will with his regiment report to Brigadier-General Wild at Wilson's Wharf.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. E. W. Hinks:

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 16, 1864.

General SHERIDAN:

You must move promptly up to our support on the right.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Above Aiken's Landing, James River, May 16, 1864—2 p. m.
(Received 10.30 a. m. 18th.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

We have taken up torpedoes in Deep Bottom and Dutch Gap, and are removing present obstructions in river. Heavy firing near Drewry's Bluff from 7 to 8 this morning. Sheridan's cavalry are crossing from left to right bank, to join General Butler. All well.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 16, 1864—9.45.

Rear-Admiral LEE:

The enemy are passing troops over the river on my right. Cannot this be prevented?

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

ENTIRELY CONFIDENTIAL.

NEW BERNE,
May 16, 1864—8 p. m.

Colonel CLAASSEN:

Will you please find out at the earliest possible moment the condition of the Dover road toward Kinston, as far as you can, even if your scouts go in sight of Kinston. As soon as you are perfectly sure that you know that, and also the condition of the railroad from your headquarters to Core Creek, or even beyond, please come and see me. If this can be done to-night successfully, do it; if you think best to postpone until to-morrow, do so, but be as quick as possible, for we have something on hand that will please you, I think. Do everything very quietly.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. TWELFTH NEW YORK VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
Camp Palmer, May 16, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,
Commanding District of North Carolina:

GENERAL: At 4 this p. m. I sent out Captain Myers, with 60 men, with directions to proceed to Nethercutt's Forks, and from that place sent one platoon to Trenton, and another to Haskins', leaving a strong reserve at the forks. I gave him no intimation (for I had

none myself) that there was any special necessity for this reconnaissance; but he is a careful and reliable officer, and will no doubt bring correct information.

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel Twelfth New York Volunteer Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 17, 1864. (Received 3.45 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Cannot General Sigel go up Shenandoah Valley to Staunton? The enemy is evidently drawing supplies largely from that source, and if Sigel can destroy the road there, it will be of vast importance to us. The weather is still cloudy and threatening, as if the rain was not yet over.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General, U. S. Army.

SPOTSYLVANIA, *May* 17, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Send all cavalry horses here to mount men who are without horses. I think it will be advisable to repair the railroad from Aquia Creek at once. Sheridan's dismounted men ought to return from James River by boat. I want him to get back here as soon as possible. If Sheridan has not started back he had better turn over all his weak artillery to Butler.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 17, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I have ordered back to Belle Plain all the Reserve Artillery, over 100 pieces. This, I think, had better go back to Washington.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 17, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Near Spotsylvania, Va.:

Sheridan has anticipated your orders, and moves to-day on his return to the Army of the Potomac. All the horses we can collect will be put in the hands of veteran cavalrymen and sent to the Army of the Potomac. I have sent the substance of your dispatch to General Sigel. Instead of advancing on Staunton he is already in full retreat on Strasburg. If you expect anything from him you will be mistaken. He will do nothing but run. He never did anything else. The Secretary of War proposes to put General Hunter in his

place. Send him up immediately. Bridges at Harper's Ferry carried away. I have sent pontoons to-day to replace them. Butler has fallen back to-day. Do not rely on him. Sherman is doing well. I will push forward railroad from Aquia Creek with all possible dispatch. More re-enforcements will leave here to-morrow. I will run them up in a few days from 25,000 to 30,000.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 17, 1864.

General ROBERT E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt this morning of your letter* of the 16th instant, stating that you have directed that the remains of the late Brigadier-General Wadsworth be sent to the lines of this army, and beg that you will accept my sincere thanks for your kind consideration of the request contained in my communication of the 15th instant. I have just learned that the remains of General Wadsworth have been brought in by the surgeon who took my communication to your lines. It will not, therefore, be necessary for me to send to Wilderness Church for the body under the arrangement made by Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton to carry out your instructions.

Very respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

FIRST DIVISION HOSPITAL, FIFTH CORPS,
In the Field, May 17, 1864.

Surg. THOMAS A. MCPARLIN, U. S. Army,
Medical Director, Army of the Potomac:

DOCTOR: I was instructed by Surg. E. B. Dalton, U. S. Volunteers, to report to you the fact that about 400 of our wounded from different corps of the army are yet in the hands of the enemy at Robertson's Tavern; that they decline to deliver them under flag of truce from Major-General Meade, and require that a flag of truce be sent by order of Lieutenant-General Grant before their delivery can be effected.

Very respectfully, &c.,

E. D. W. BRENEMAN,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army.

WILLIAM STREET HOSPITAL,
Fredericksburg, May 17, 1864.

Dr. DALTON,
Medical Director:

SIR: I am very anxious that some relief be sent immediately to Dr. Aiken and others of Second and Third Divisions of Second

*Not found.

Corps hospital, now near the Wilderness, and in the hands of the enemy. Last Saturday, the 14th instant, I left there with 210 wounded men by means of a flag of truce, leaving Drs. Aiken, Monroe, Watson, Kelsey, O'Farrell, and, I believe, nearly 400 wounded men. They were then nearly destitute of medical supplies and entirely destitute of provisions, with the exception of a small quantity of pork, not enough for one day's supply. We had all been almost destitute of food. It is now four days since I left there, and I am confident they are in a starving condition unless supplies have been sent to them. No aid could be obtained from the enemy, as they said they were short of supplies themselves. Hoping this may receive due consideration from you,

I remain, dear sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. R. H. SAWYER,
Assistant Surgeon in charge William Street Hospital.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
May 18, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, Army of the Potomac, with the remark that a similar report has already been forwarded by me.

THOS. A. McPARLIN,
Surgeon, U. S. Army, Medical Director.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 17, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: We have a deserter who came into our lines last night from Forty-fifth North Carolina, Daniel's brigade, Rodes' division, which he left lying on the enemy's left near where Hancock charged the corner. Thinks his whole division is there. Loss in his brigade very heavy. General Daniel killed. This man thinks that within a few days the spirit of the men has somewhat failed. Rations issued for two days Saturday night, which is the last he was in the way of knowing about. Knows nothing of re-enforcements or communications.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have just returned from the vicinity of Smith's Mill. From observations made and information obtained from other sources, I find the enemy's cavalry so posted as to cover Guiney's Station, and the lower road leading from Spotsylvania

Court-House to the station. They have several light pieces of artillery posted where the Telegraph road crosses the Po River. I have no doubt if they make another stand they will endeavor to keep possession of the road leading from the Court-House to Guiney's Station to be used to move troops upon from point to point as needed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Acting Chief Signal Officer.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 17, 1864—9.15 a. m.

General headquarters are now being transferred to the vicinity of the Anderson house.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 137. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *May* 17, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Corps and division commanders will bring to immediate trial the deserters from the battle-field now being returned to the army, and will forward without delay the action of courts in such cases, that no time may be lost in inflicting summary punishment for this disgraceful crime.

3. The full marching allowance of grain will be issued to the artillery horses for the next three days.

* * * * * * *

7. Col. H. S. Burton, Fifth U. S. Artillery, is assigned to duty on the staff of the major-general commanding as inspector of artillery, and will be respected accordingly. Second Lieut. John G. McConnell, jr., Pennsylvania artillery, is assigned to duty as assistant to Colonel Burton.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAMP ON LINE IN FRONT OF BERMUDA HUNDRED,
May 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: We were ordered here very suddenly by General Halleck on May 10, and are now in charge of the heavy guns of this army. I have left my ordnance officer, Capt. S. P. Hatfield, First Connecticut Artillery, at the arsenal in charge of the siege train, which is essentially afloat now. I earnestly hope you will get me ordered to you as soon as there is a chance to use the heavy guns,

with the Second Connecticut, Colonel Kellogg, to supply the needed additional force. Please address me "through headquarters Tenth Army Corps, Bermuda Hundred, Va., via Fort Monroe." General Halleck said to me that this change in the programme was only to send me in advance of my train to support General Butler while waiting for you.

Yours, very respectfully,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

I mailed to you the book and tables you requested before starting.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 17, 1864—8 a. m. (Received 9 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: You will make your arrangements to move with your corps to-night and take position on the left of General Wright and the Sixth Corps, in order to assault the enemy's works at early dawn. Send your staff officers to learn the roads, character of ground, &c., as far as can be learned from General Wright, with whom you had better confer. A division, under command of General R. O. Tyler, expected to-day, will be added to your corps. Birney and Gibbon will not be moved till night.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 17, 1864—7 p. m. (Received 7.15 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

You will, as soon after dark as possible, move your corps back to its former position in the vicinity of the Landrum house, and make your arrangements for a vigorous assault of the enemy's works at 4 a. m. to-morrow morning. Major-General Wright, with the Sixth Corps, will follow you and take position on your right, joining in the assault at the time above named.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 17, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: A portion of Rodes' division, said to be two brigades, made an attack upon Birney's pickets this evening from the direction of the Brown house. Their skirmish line is now in the woods this side of the Brown house, on the other side of the Ny. I have or-

dered them to be driven out. The troops are getting into position as fast as the original line of General Birney's pickets can be re-established.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

SECOND CORPS,
May 17, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant NEEL:

We will close communication. Remain there until night and report to General Birney, and then join headquarters at the Anderson house.

TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 131. } *May* 17, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. Col. T. A. Smyth, First Delaware Volunteers, is relieved from the command of the Second Brigade, First Division, and will report without delay to his division commander.

III. Col. H. B. McKeen, Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, will report at once to Brigadier-General Gibbon, commanding Second Division, for assignment to the command of a brigade.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

The First Division will move at dark, crossing the Ny at Anderson's Mill and massing at the first clearing beyond. The Second Division will move at dark to Anderson's Mill. A staff officer from these headquarters will conduct this division. The pickets will be withdrawn when the division moves. The Third Division will move as soon as shall be indicated by Major-General Burnside, the pickets of the division remaining out until relieved by General Burnside. The artillery will mass near the road between Anderson's house and Anderson's Bridge, after the infantry has passed. The ammunition wagons will follow their division. As soon as the infantry shall have cleared the way to Anderson's Bridge the chief of artillery will move three batteries up to a point near the Coleman house, ready to advance if any opportunity is found to use artillery. So much of General Tyler's command as may be up will follow General Gibbon on the march.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL BIRNEY'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 17, 1864—11.20 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

My pickets report trains with infantry guards moving across the front to the left, about 1,000 yards to the right of General Burnside's line.

BIRNEY,
General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs me to request that you will send a staff officer to his headquarters to receive directions as to the position to be assigned your division. The headquarters of the corps will be on the flat beyond the Anderson house. General Hancock also desires that you inquire whether anything has been seen of his opera glass in the place where his sword was found.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864—7.15 p. m. (Received 7.35 p. m.)

General BIRNEY:

GENERAL: You will make no change in your lines, and not move until further orders.

By command of Major-General Hancock:
W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 17, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I want to see you at once.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Beverly's House, May 17, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

As we will most probably begin an attack from this point with cannonading, to which the enemy will reply, you had better have your men construct shelters where they can await the results. Send this to General Cutler.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. C. GRIFFIN,
First Division:

GENERAL: General Warren directs me to say that he is now going to the front along the left of our line with General Crawford, and that you will be temporarily in command of the corps. If anything should happen needing your attention I will notify you at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General CUTLER,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that Col. S. H. Leonard, Thirteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, do not assume command of the First Brigade, Second Division, but that he report to these headquarters without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

Captain MARVIN:

SIR: I have the honor to report that I have my command in the new position and am at work on the trenches. It takes every man I have to form one line from the pike to the Ny River without any reserves. If General Griffin advances to the point indicated by him, he will be considerably in advance of my left.

Very respectfully,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

MAY 17, 1864—6 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: I send this note from General Cutler as General Warren has not returned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

I must have the line indicated at first, in order to connect with the Sixth Corps and afford the proper support to the artillery. General Cutler will, if necessary, make an angle in order to connect with First Division.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

[Captain MARVIN:]

CAPTAIN: General Griffin has just left me. We had arranged to put artillery in the interval, and if any room was left, we will fill it some way.

Yours,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 17, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Col. J. H. KITCHING,
Commanding Heavy Artillery:

COLONEL: By order from the major-general commanding corps, you will have your command in complete readiness to move at 3 o'clock to-morrow morning, 18th instant, the men to have their breakfasts and be under arms awaiting orders at that hour. You will report in person to these headquarters at 3 o'clock for further instructions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 17, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The scouting party have returned from Hamilton's Crossing and vicinity, and report no enemy there. The rebel cavalry left there last night.

KERWIN,
Commanding Pennsylvania Cavalry.

MAY 17, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

Colonel H[ammond] is now sending a force to Guiney's Station and across Po River.

PAINE,
Captain Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

The corps will move shortly after dark back to the Landrum house, following the Second Corps, which moves at dark. General Neill will move first, keeping well closed on the Second Corps. General Ricketts and General Russell will follow in the order named.

The artillery and trains will move by the same roads they followed when marching up. The pickets will remain until daylight, when they will be withdrawn under the direction of the senior officer.

An assault will be made on the enemy's position at 4 a. m.

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864—5.50 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: I am ordered to move at dark, and I wish to know what time you can spare General Birney from your right, and whether you can send a guide with him down to Anderson's Mill on the other side of the Ny or not, or whether he had better march on this side of the Ny. If on this side, Captain Miller, my aide, will want to conduct him. General Birney's pickets remain on until they are relieved by your orders, in conjunction with your own. General Gibbon's pickets on General Birney's right will be withdrawn at dark and will move this way.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 17, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

If your Reserve Artillery has not yet started back, send it at once. The Reserve Artillery of the Army of the Potomac has been mostly distributed to divisions, and other artillery has been sent back in lieu of it.

By command of Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

My Reserve Artillery was ordered to accompany the Reserve Artillery of the Army of the Potomac back to Fredericksburg.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania, May 17, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: If the division of re-enforcements under General Tyler arrive to-night as is expected, an attack will be made at 4 a. m. to-

morrow to the left of the position now held by Warren's corps. Hancock's and Wright's corps will commence the attack, and Warren's corps will support batteries which will be established during the night. I want you to hold your command in readiness to move out of their present place at 3.30 in the morning, to move by the left flank, to follow up the two attacking corps and support them. If you move leave your pickets to remain until driven in or recalled. I will let you know in the evening if the attack is to be made. Send out some of your staff officers to reconnoiter the roads over which you will have to pass when you do move, and parties to make such repairs or new roads as may be required. My headquarters will be moved in the course of an hour or so to near the Anderson house.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—I have just received news from Sherman. On the 15th he had whipped J. Johnston with a loss of 3,000 men on our side. Sherman was then crossing the Oostenaula. Johnston has evidently given up.

U. S. G.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 17, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

A reconnaissance of the ground over which it was intended to attack to-morrow morning proves the ground entirely impracticable to pass troops over. The attack, therefore, will not be made as ordered. In lieu of that, Hancock and Wright will move back during the night to the old position of the Second Corps and attack them at 4 a. m. in the morning. Warren will commence with his artillery, which is so placed as to enfilade the enemy's rifle-pits in your front; being prepared, however, to follow Hancock and Wright if they should succeed in breaking through, or to strengthen Warren if the enemy should move on him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864—6.20 p. m.

The following is the order of march for the pending movement of the Ninth Corps: The entire picket-line will be kept out until driven off or relieved. The senior officer of the day of divisions, Major Bolton, Fifty-first Pennsylvania, will be in general command of the picket-line of all of the divisions, and Major Colburn, of Fifty-ninth Massachusetts, officer of the day of the First Division, and Major Wright, Fifty-first New York, officer of the day of the Second Division, will report to Major Bolton for instructions. Major Bolton's headquarters will be with the Fifty-first Pennsylvania, or just in rear. Major Wright should see that his picket-line connects with that of General Birney's division, and co-operate with the officers in charge in case they are driven in or withdrawn.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 17, 1864.

Col. L. RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Captain Pike, Second Ohio Cavalry, and Captain Cloke, Third New Jersey Cavalry, were both serving under my orders some days since, with their companies. I left them guarding the fords and roads on the left of Gayle's house, but it seems other cavalry has been placed on the duty. Would it not be well either to recall these companies, or have them join their proper regiment?

I remain, colonel, very respectfully, yours,
O. B. WILLCOX.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Howell's Landing, Va., May 17, 1864—3 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, Va.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

I am moving out with my command to return to the Army of the Potomac. Our victorious fight at Yellow Tavern, 6 miles from Richmond, and between the first and second lines of fortifications and Meadow Bridge, increases in importance every day. The enemy lost many valuable officers, among the number J. E. B. Stuart, commanding their cavalry, who died from a wound received in the engagement of Yellow Tavern. Their cavalry is badly broken up. I sent from here to-day my dismounted men, numbering some 700. Not a moment's delay should occur in mounting and sending them back to my command. I have turned over to the quartermaster at Bermuda Hundred 303 unserviceable horses; many of them were worthless when I started. Among the supplies destroyed at Beaver Dam Station were Lee's medical stores. The two pieces of artillery captured at Yellow Tavern I transferred to the chief of ordnance, with General Butler's command.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. T. A. TORBERT:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this date. The commanding general desires that you will repair to these headquarters and assume the temporary command of the detachments of cavalry now with the army, recently mounted, numbering more than 2,000 men. Headquarters will move to-morrow morning to the vicinity of the deserted house, to reach which place you will proceed on the Spotsylvania and Fredericksburg road to the vicinity of the Harris house, about half a mile from the Ny River, and then turn to the right and proceed about a mile. The Twenty-second New York Cavalry does not belong to the Army of the Potomac, and the commanding general has received no instructions with regard to dismounting that regiment. General Sheridan reached the James River on the 13th. He had a battle with Stuart's cavalry, which he defeated, capturing 10 guns, and in the battle General Stuart was

mortally wounded. It is understood that General Sheridan left the James River yesterday, on his return to the army. He is expected to reach here to-morrow or the next day.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FREDERICKSBURG, *May* 17, 1864.
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, Belle Plain:

GENERAL: A second bridge at this point is necessary. You will procure from Washington the necessary pontoons and establish the bridge with the least delay possible.

By authority of the Secretary of War.

Respectfully,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Belle Plain, May 17, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I have the honor to report as follows as to the recent operations of the portion of my command remaining with me:

Upon a call of General Burnside of the 1st instant, and as authorized by General Meade's instructions of the 26th ultimo, a bridge was sent to and laid at Rappahannock Station, my officer being directed to report to General Burnside for authority when to leave; as, however, he did not obtain this, and he was exposed several days after the general had crossed, I at length ordered him into the depot, where he arrived with the bridge and his command on the 13th instant. Upon the 10th instant I received General Halleck's order to lay a bridge at Fredericksburg. This bridge, with land train, was at once sent here, with a suitable pontoon party, but delayed here by the quartermaster's department, was eventually used for wharves here.

Upon the 13th instant I received an order from the Secretary of War, by the Adjutant-General, by which I was directed to repair with my brigade to this place and have the roads placed in good order between this and Fredericksburg, being required to take every man, leaving only a guard over the property at the depot. Upon the 14th instant I received your orders to have my men repair the same roads. Under the orders to take my brigade and leave only a guard at the depot I felt obliged to take everything—all the siege-tool and supply-train teams, wagons, &c., and also virtually suspend all the repairs of pontoons at the depot; but after my train was shipped I learned from General Rucker that General Halleck had not intended to have these trains taken, though under your own orders, received on the 14th, I should not have done so, or broken up the work at the depot, but should have sent, say, two-thirds of my whole force there, with a suitable staff officer, to repair these roads, retaining the balance, as I believe would have been desired by the general, ready to act under his previous confidential instruc-

tions, with the bridging and other material held ready there when the anticipated emergency should arrive.

The whole command is now here, having got all its trains and material ashore on the afternoon of the 15th instant; and yesterday the battalion of the Fifteenth Regiment, some 400 men, besides the camp guard, was early at work upon the roads some 3 miles beyond this, the superintendent of a construction force of General Meigs having proposed to me to repair the roads within that distance. The fraction of the depot company of the Fiftieth Regiment now here is in charge of the pontoon wharves, which are now constructed as far as required, and to the great satisfaction, as I understand from General Meigs, of his Department. These roads, by the report of my inspector-general, whom I have specially charged with them, will probably be put in very good order, as to all the worst places, in the course of two or three days, which my own reconnaissance confirms, although, perhaps, while they are being much used, it may be expedient to continue a company or part of a company in the care of them, or some pioneer workers from the infantry here, if the engineers are needed elsewhere; and with reference to this, I would respectfully request your further instructions, if convenient, by the hands of my adjutant-general, by whom I send this, as to whether, when this work shall have been executed, I shall move on with my men at once to the headquarters of the army to the charge of the brigade there, or return to the depot, to hold myself and command ready to act on the previous confidential orders of the 16th and 17th ultimo.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, and in answer I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that when you shall have put in good order the road between the landing at Belle Plain and Fredericksburg you will leave a sufficient detachment to keep the road in good condition, and then return with the remainder of your command to the depot in the vicinity of the navy-yard at Washington.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 17, 1864.

Col. MATHEW MURPHY,
Commanding Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers:

You will report with your command to Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, commanding Army of the Potomac, for orders and assignment.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The preceding order has been sent to Colonel Murphy, who last evening encamped with his command about 3 miles out from here on the Fredericksburg road.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

FREDERICKSBURG, *May* 17, 1864.
(Received 2.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

General Grant desires the immediate repairs of the railroad from Aquia Creek to Hamilton's Crossing. I have instructed the chief of the Military Railroad Office, and sent orders to the construction force now at Belle Plain. A second bridge is much needed here. General Benham should have twenty more pontoons sent to him at once. There are teams at Belle Plain to haul his bridge materials to this place. Your dispatches of yesterday received here at 4.30 a. m. I expect to go to Belle Plain this afternoon. I have ordered more wagons and ambulances to Belle Plain, for service between that place and this. There are many badly wounded here, for whose transportation the opening of the Rappahannock is very desirable. About 600 wounded were rescued yesterday by a close movement from Fifth and Second Corps hospitals, within the enemy's lines, and have arrived here in generally good condition. They were kindly treated by the enemy. There is little doubt of Mayor Slaughter's guilt. If in town he is concealed. The attempt to arrest him will be made.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 17, 1864—7 p. m.
(Received 7.20 p. m.)

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Your dispatches reached me at Fredericksburg at 4.30 a. m. to-day. I have given orders for such arrangements for comfort and quick transportation of wounded and for their supply as seemed advisable and practicable. I wrote to General Grant in regard to the situation of the place. Directed General Benham to construct another pontoon bridge at Fredericksburg. I came to this place this afternoon; visited the prisoners' camp, which is sufficiently guarded. Over 3,000 are shipped to-day, leaving only about 2,500 in the camp. The guard is about 1,100 strong—two regiments. The wharves and arrangements here for embarking prisoners and wounded, and for receiving supplies are sufficient. The work is well and quickly done. The construction corps is at Aquia Creek, already at work on the railroad. Three of the parties implicated with Mayor Slaughter are in arrest. An effort will be made to catch him to-night. They will be sent to Washington in close arrest; the mayor in irons, if caught. Straw for bedding and soft bread for the liet of the wounded are

needed here. I report myself ready to return to Washington, or for any orders you may have to send me. I saw Colonel Carroll, severely wounded in the arms, but cheerful and doing well; also General Webb, who has a wound on the right side of the head, in good spirits, expecting to come to Belle Plain to-morrow. The 500 wounded of the Second and Fifth Corps, recovered yesterday from the enemy's lines are now being embarked here. The head of General Tyler's column, 9,000 strong, was about crossing the Rappahannock at 3.30 p. m.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, U. S. Army.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., *May* 17, 1864.
(Received 2.20 p. m.)

Col. D. C. MCCALLUM:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that the Potomac and Richmond Railroad as far as Hamilton's Crossing shall be put in order with the least possible delay. Send all necessary material and labor at once to Aquia Creek. A second bridge at Fredericksburg is essential to quick communication. Please see General Rucker, procure the necessary transportation, and have twenty pontoons (for which General Rucker promised yesterday to send to Washington) towed to Aquia with the least delay, together with the other bridge material.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *May* 17, 1864.
(Received 2.40 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The railroad will be done to Falmouth by Tuesday night next.

Your obedient servant,

D. C. MCCALLUM,
Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General MEIGS,
Belle Plain:

There is an urgent necessity for you to be here. You will please come immediately if you have no contrary orders or assigned duty from General Grant.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

BICKFORD,
Belle Plain:

Have the telegram from Secretary of War to General Meigs delivered to-night certain.

THOS. T. ECKERT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., May 17, 1864.

Captain COLLINS,
Belle Plain:

You have no right to inspect telegrams for any purpose, and to do so without express authority of this Department would be a grave offense. The completion of the line across the river dispenses with your further service at Belle Plain. You are therefore relieved, and will immediately report at Washington for further orders.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 17, 1864.
(Received 9.15 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your telegram, and in obedience to your order will start by first boat for Washington. The line is completed to this point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. D. COLLINS,
Captain, Veteran Reserve Corps.

BELLE PLAIN, VA., *May* 17, 1864—12 midnight.
(Received 12.15 a. m. 18th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Mosby, with about 200 men, attacked a detachment from Falmouth, within about 4 miles of this place, between Potomac Creek and the Fredericksburg road (three-quarters of a mile from the latter), and wounded the guide, Davis, in the head. I am about to dispatch 300 cavalry in pursuit. I have every reason to believe they are concentrating to make a descent on the depot, or to attack the train on its way to the front, as hundreds of wagons are constantly on the road. Three hundred cavalry—all I have mounted—are not sufficient to guard trains, scour the country, picket, &c. There should be at least 800 or 900. The Eighth Illinois Cavalry, part of which I have, know this country.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 17, 1864—8 a. m. (Received 8.40 a. m.)

WAR DEPARTMENT:

Two thousand dismounted cavalry are now debarking. As soon as they are off I will relieve some of the infantry who have been guarding prisoners and send them on. General Tyler, with 9,000 men, is now on the road, heading for the army. Eight of a party of dismounted rebel cavalry captured last night. Party dispersed.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 17, 1864.

General J. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

Your telegram of the 17th, in relation to the First Maryland Volunteers, is received. It was absolutely necessary to stop Colonel Dushane and his command, as at that time the guerrillas were making demonstrations on us. Our trains of wounded had been fired on, and horses had been captured on the road from here to Fredericksburg. A large body of rebel prisoners were also expected at the time. Colonel Dushane and his command are ordered forward.

I am, respectfully,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 6. }

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 17, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XVIII and XIX., Col. I. C. Bassett and Colonel Dushane [Staunton ?] will each send a field officer and 500 men, properly officered, at 8 a. m. May 18, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to the relief of Colonel Dushane, First Maryland Volunteers, White Oak Church. Colonel Dushane will, on being relieved, proceed at once to join the Army of the Potomac.

* * * * * * *

By order of Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie:

R. L. ORR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 17, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER,
Military Governor, Fredericksburg:

COLONEL: The following is a copy of a communication just received at these headquarters:

The returning orderlies from Fredericksburg and headquarters of the army state that they are detained at Rappahannock bridge, at Fredericksburg, because no persons are allowed to cross over until the trains are over. I most respectfully ask that something may be done to prevent this detention, as messages sent to the front are of the most vital importance.

F. T. BICKFORD,
Telegraph Operator.

The general commanding directs that you see to this matter immediately. Do not allow this to occur, but pass all messengers to and fro from the army and from him to yourself.

Respectfully, &c.,

R. L. ORR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 17, 1864.

Colonel ROOT,
Annapolis, Md.:

General Lockwood says he has heard nothing from the Ninety-fourth New York Infantry. Have they started for the Junction? If not, why?

SAML. B. LAWRENCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 17, 1864—1.30 p. m.
(Received 7.35 p. m.)

His Excellency A. LINCOLN,
President of the United States:

On the 16th of May, 1861, I was honored by your kindness with a commission as major-general U. S. Volunteers. I have heard that such commissions expire by limitation of three years. I by no means desire to quit the service till the war is done. Do you think I have done enough to entitle me to one of the vacant commissions in the army, to date from May 16, 1861; otherwise I should prefer my present one, if you think me fit to hold either, and I can hold on to it.

Truly, yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[MAY 17, 1864.—For Butler to Stanton, relative to operations against Drewry's Bluff, &c., see p. 11.]

HAXALL'S LANDING, *May 17, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that I move out at 11 a. m. to-day, en route to join the Army of the Potomac.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

Statement of Corpl. Frederick Foster, Company A, Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers.

I passed out near the mill on a little creek that runs the mill near our picket. During the night I passed on to the turnpike, near where General Terry had his fight. Our gun-boats throw shell into the country between the old and new turnpikes on a line running west southwest from Dr. Howlett's house, and think they did some damage, as they hallooed "cover," &c. Saw a column passing to-

ward Richmond on the turnpike; could not tell how many, as they were passing when I got there. I saw what I thought to be a battalion with a battery of light artillery.

The head of the column had gone by when I got there; don't know whether it was a brigade or more or less. They used the words "over the river across the pontoons," and "Harrison's Landing," &c., all of which was disconnected. They spoke of expecting "warm work soon." Saw a battery in an earth-work between the old and new turnpikes near the road running from the old (at Widow Clay's) to new turnpike. Saw two guns mounted in battery, and saw two or three caissons or guns on carriages. Saw what seemed to be rifle-pits between turnpike and railroad. Saw seven cars and one engine, seemed to be unloading commissary's [stores] between Chester Station and the intersection of railroad and pike. The engine was turned toward Petersburg; don't know if the train came from Richmond or Petersburg. Did not see any movement of troops save what I have stated, except working parties, some slashing and some with shovels.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. CAROLINA,
No. —. } *In the Field, Va., May* 17, 1864.

1. Col. H. L. Abbot, First Connecticut Artillery, will assume command of all the siege artillery of this army, except Battery M, Third Pennsylvania Artillery, stationed at City Point. He will report direct to these headquarters, consulting with the commanders of the Tenth and Eighteenth Army Corps, as to the positions of the siege guns within their lines.

2. The commanding officer of battery of Third Pennsylvania Artillery, now on the line of defenses, will report for duty to Col. Henry L. Abbot, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS,] HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA,
In the Field, Va., May 17, 1864.

Owing to the exigencies of the service the work upon the lines of defenses must be pressed with the utmost diligence.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 17, 1864

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

Can you inform me where Colonel Onderdonk is with his command? He has not reported to me to-day.

Respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

GILLMORE'S,
May 17, 1864.

General BUTLER:

I have ordered fatigue parties to work on the intrenchments to-night along my whole front.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 17, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding:*

Would you like to have me push a reconnaissance to the front to see what is going on there? I sent you report of my picket officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, some time since.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

INTRENCHED LINE, *May* 17, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding:*

In accordance with your instructions by telegraph, I have sent a force out to observe the pike and capture any wagon trains of the enemy that may be passing either way.

Very respectfully, yours,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

MAY 17, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The following is just received from picket-line:

WARE BOTTOM CHURCH, *May* 17, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Up to this time three brigades of rebels have passed toward Petersburg along the turnpike with large wagon trains. They seem to be establishing a picket-line to the river about 2 miles from here. Their cavalry vedettes are at Dr. Howlett's, and within half a mile of us on the left. No movement of troops is visible just at present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD CAMPBELL,
Lieut. Col. Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Vols., Comdg. Regt.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

WARE BOTTOM CHURCH, VA., *May* 17, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that being on picket with the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, under my command, my lookout discovered a body of the enemy, about a brigade, moving from the direction of Richmond toward Petersburg on the turnpike.

This was about 2 p. m., and the movement is still going on. The infantry was followed by a train of about 100 wagons. A small cavalry force is visible between the movement and James River. The line which I picketed runs from Ware Bottom Church to James River, and the distance of the enemy's troops and trains from it seems about 3 miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD CAMPBELL,

Lieut. Col. Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Vols., Comdg. Regt.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of Major-General Butler.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

MAY 17, 1864—5 o'clock.

Answered, saying that it is undoubtedly a commissary train, and that it would return to-night, and ordered General Gillmore to try and capture them.

J. W. SHAFFER.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., May 17, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: The First Regiment Connecticut Heavy Artillery, Colonel Abbot commanding, reported for duty, during my absence at the front, to the officer in command of the intrenchment in front of my position. I understand this was done by order from department headquarters. I respectfully request information as to the status of this regiment, and whether I am to consider it as belonging to the Tenth Corps, or attached to it.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General BROOKS,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding department has directed that the defensive arrangements along our front be pushed forward with all possible dispatch. You will please have your details for the slashings made out to-night, in order that they may be set to work at an early hour in the morning. Lieutenant Michie, Corps of Engi-

neers, will lay out a work on your front to-morrow; you will furnish him the necessary working parties. These details will be made daily until the work is completed along our entire front.

By command of Major-General Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Hdqrs. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: In reply to your communication of this evening, I have the honor to state that Colonel Onderdonk and his command are now on duty with this corps. His command, as well as other troops of this corps, were temporarily attached to the Tenth Corps during the late movements, but have never been assigned to that corps to my knowledge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. GODFREY WEITZEL,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding department has directed that the works and other defensive arrangements along our front be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. You will please have your details made out to-night, in order that they may set to work early in the morning on the redoubt and on the slashings.

By command of Major-General Smith:

NICOLAS BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—These details to be made daily till all the defenses are completed.

By command of, &c.:

N. B.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *May* 17, 1864.

General BUTLER:

Contrabands and refugees report a very small force in Petersburg not over 1,500 or 2,000 men.

E. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General

May 17, 1864—9 a. m.

Colonel DUNCAN:

If you are attacked, inform me as to the force and the direction from which the attack is made.

HINKS,
General.

CITY POINT, *May* 17, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

I have just arrived here with my command, men and horses much jaded. I destroyed Coalfield, Powhatan, and Chula Stations, on the Danville road, and tore up more or less of the track at those points. I burned Wilson's, Wellville, and Blacks and Whites Stations, on the South Side road, and tore up the track at the various points. The bridges were all strongly guarded, and the condition of the command did not justify an attack. Captain Shaffer is with me.

A. V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

NORFOLK, VA., *May* 17, 1864.

Captain EDSON,
Chief of Ordnance, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

Our lines are threatened with an attack to-night. Please send immediately to-night by tug a supply of ammunition for the Henry repeating rifle for the First District of Columbia Cavalry. I will give all necessary receipts.

GEORGE F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

PORTSMOUTH, *May* 17, 1864.

Captain JOHNSTON:

Will you have the North Carolina regiment in readiness to move over at any time? The outpost is in danger of attack. Also have a boat dispatched to Fort Monroe for the ammunition for the First District of Columbia Cavalry.

I. VOGDES,
Brigadier-General.

BOWERS' HILL, *May* 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General VOGDES:

I have just received information from the outpost at Bernard's Mill that there is a large force of Wren's rebel cavalry on the South Quay road. It is thought they will attack the post to-night or to-morrow; probably, to-night. Four rebel scouts came into Suffolk to-day, from whom this information was obtained by a man upon whom I think I can rely.

I. S. GATES,
Major, Commanding Outpost.

BOWERS' HILL, *May* 17, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General VOGDES:

The force at the advanced post, if attacked, must fall back as far as this post, and will depend upon circumstances whether they come down the county road or the railroad. If a force is sent up to support us they can come down the county road, if not, they must come down the railroad, for fear we will not be able to hold the rebels in check until the force from Bernard's Mill shall arrive, as the railroad is much the shortest one. Then, again, there is considerable risk to run by coming down the railroad, of having the retreat followed up by shot and shell from rifled pieces. Please inform me if I shall be re-enforced. To prevent unnecessary trouble the re-enforcements need not be sent until attack is made at Bernard's Mill.

J. S. GATES,
Major, Commanding Outpost.

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
May 17, 1864—10.40 a. m.

General PALMER:

I have made a reconnaissance within about 5 miles of Kinston, where pickets were found but not disturbed. The Dover road up to that point has been, by frequenters I presume, pretty well closed. The railroad beyond Core Creek has been turned over, and can be relaid with nearly the same rails; sleepers are used up, though. I am now investigating or tracing a rumor that Corse's and Evans' forces reached Kinston within the past five days, en route to Weldon. Miller, I think, if this is true, will be in to-night some time. Do you desire to see me? If so, please let an engine run up for me.

P. J. CLAASSEN,
Colonel, Commanding Outposts.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Trent's Reach, May 17, 1864—6 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe 5 p. m. 21st. Received 5.40 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Nothing special in Richmond paper of yesterday. General Butler last night reoccupied his line from this reach to Appomattox. Monitors on his right flank. Navy advance division searched for torpedoes until they came under fire of rebel earth-works about Chaffin's Bluff. The new tugs need efficient batteries. More vessels with effective batteries needed to keep open my communications, Sheridan's cavalry having withdrawn from left bank.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania, Va., May 18, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Before daylight to-morrow morning I propose to draw Hancock and Burnside from the positions they now hold, and put

Burnside to the left of Wright. Wright and Burnside should then force their way up as close to the enemy as they can get without a general engagement, or with a general engagement if the enemy will come out of their works to fight, and intrench. Hancock should march and take up a position as if in support of the two left corps. To-morrow night at 12 or 1 o'clock, he will be moved southeast with all his force and as much cavalry as can be given to him, to get as far toward Richmond on the line of the Fredericksburg railroad as he can make, fighting the enemy in whatever force he may find him. If the enemy make a general move to meet this, they will be followed by the other three corps of the army, and attacked if possible before time is given to intrench. Suitable directions will at once be given for all trains and surplus artillery to conform to this movement.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, May 18, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CONFEDERATE FORCES,
Near Old Wilderness Tavern, Va.:

SIR: To secure proper medical supplies and care for wounded soldiers who, I understand, are still left in your hospitals near Old Wilderness Tavern, I would request that all who are still in your hands be delivered to Assistant Surgeon Breneman, U. S. Army, who is authorized to receipt the rolls of the same. I will state that all Confederate wounded who have fallen into our hands are receiving good care and abundance of supplies of all descriptions. Such, however, as have not been sent beyond Fredericksburg will be delivered into your hands at Chancellorsville if you desire it.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
May 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Prisoners of war from Daniel's brigade, of Rodes' division, taken last evening on the left of the enemy's line, state that Rodes' division was moved from the extreme left of the line a considerable distance to the right and rear last night after dark; that it was supposed our troops had been withdrawn from their front; that Hays' (Louisiana) brigade has been consolidated with Stafford's brigade (in Johnson's division), and a North Carolina brigade added to Early's division from Rodes'. This is Johnston's (North Carolina) brigade. Prisoners taken from the Sixty-first Georgia, Gordon's brigade, Early's division, this a. m., report that rations were issued night before last for two days. Think rations were issued last night, but got none, being out on picket.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel and Deputy Provost-Marshal-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864.

First. Hancock withdraws to-night to Anderson's Mill. Second. Burnside the same to the Massaponax Church road. Third. Wright has returned to his former position at Myers'. Fourth. All trains, hospitals, &c., should be brought this side of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Court-House road to-night.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 18, 1864—3 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I am just informed that the head of General Tyler's command has appeared near the gate posts, where your headquarters were to-day, in rather broken order. I shall now have half an hour to collect him and bring him on. He will evidently not be of much use in the assault. The First and Second Divisions are already formed, and the Sixth Corps is marching by.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 18, 1864—4.05 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Owing to the difficulties of advancing the picket-line, only one of General Wright's divisions is in position. General Wright, not being yet ready, I shall delay the assault a little. The other division of General Wright is now on the ground.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—4.35 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I have ordered the attack, though General Wright's Third Division is not formed, nor is General Tyler's division yet up.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—5.40 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: General Gibbon reports he has driven the enemy from two lines of rifle-pits, and has come to a very heavy work. I have just sent to General Wright to see that he makes his connection on the right, as there is none at this moment. General Barlow is separated from the enemy by a dense abatis of 20 rods in width. They are now engaged with the enemy—he (the enemy) firing canister. General B. thinks doubtful if our men can penetrate it. I have no option but to order them to continue, unless I hear from you to the contrary. I have not heard from General Wright yet.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—6.15 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that, if you deem it impracticable to make a successful assault, you will not make the attack, but communicate with General Wright, and learn if he has found a practicable point of attack, so as to move in that direction, should he find one.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I have not found a practicable point of attack as yet. The right of your line and the left of mine are broken from a fire from a work back of the enemy's line, running in a southwest direction. I doubt the success of an assault there, unless you can carry it from your side of the rifle-pits. The battery seems to be as represented below.*

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 18, 1864—6.50 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac.

GENERAL: General Wright has not come to any works yet, but he has not advanced very far. He is now trying to swing his right up. My left is within 100 yards of the enemy, and their battle [*sic*] are about 100 paces apart. General Barlow represents from

* Sketch not found.

personal inspection that the most dense abatis he has ever seen separates him from the enemy. Our men are lying down, and there is very little firing except when they rise up in front of the works. The division commanders think that the point is impracticable for attack on their fronts; but I am holding them, but awaiting developments from General Wright. The right of General Gibbon's line and the left of the Sixth Corps gave way under a severe fire of canister; but General Owen's brigade (the one quarter of this command) was ordered back. There appears to be a heavy work of the enemy which prevents troops standing there. The commanders of divisions have found no use for any more troops than those they have in.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

GENERAL: If you use so many of your troops in advance as to denude your rifle-pits, call on me and I will send you heavy artillery to replace them.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.
Major-General of Volunteers.

[Indorsement.]

Major-General HANCOCK:

I think I have men enough to hold the rifle-pits without doubt, and don't think it necessary for you to send any. Much obliged for the offer.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 18, 1864—8.30 [a. m.].

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Nothing has been heard from General Wright yet as to any new developments. General Barlow's line has been re-established in the enemy's rifle-pits close to the abatis and in plain sight of their main line. Part of this division fell back owing to a destructive fire of canister (enfilading) from a battery in front of Burnside's right. General Gibbon's division has not been re-established in its advanced position, but the right of the division is near enough to skirmish with the enemy in his works. General Barlow, who has made a close examination, deems it impracticable to carry the position in his front, owing to the abatis. I have offered the disposal of my available troops to General Wright. If the attack is not to be persisted in, I will withdraw General Barlow, as he is in a very exposed position. Seven guns can be counted in his immediate front.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—8.45 a. m. (Received 9.07 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps.

The major-general commanding directs me to say that the attack is abandoned and that you will immediately order Tyler's division back to the Anderson house and assume a defensive attitude, sending such of your artillery trains as you do not require to the Anderson house with Tyler's division. General Wright will be withdrawn as soon as Tyler is out of the way.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864. (Received 5.45 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Army Corps.

The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw after 9 o'clock this evening and move to Anderson's Mill, at the crossing of the Ny by the Massaponax Church road. General Burnside is directed to withdraw after you have withdrawn, and to take position on the left of General Wright, as close to the enemy as he can get. He will cross the Ny at Anderson's Mill. You, therefore, will clear the road for him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—6.50 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL: Do you wish the pickets to be withdrawn when the command moves or kept on till nearer morning?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Burnside is here and wishes to see you before you move. He will ride at once to your headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—8.15 p. m. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Burnside wishes Barlow's left to cover his flank. He will withdraw Barlow and your pickets when he moves at 3 a. m. to-morrow.

Please give the necessary order to carry this out. I refer to the division on the line occupied by Birney yesterday. Burnside thinks it is Barlow's.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding thinks the pickets should remain until about 3 in the morning, by which time it is supposed General Burnside will have withdrawn. The pickets should be out of the way by daylight.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

General Birney will report to General Burnside, and remain on his flank, as you direct. My loss to-day in the division which attacked is thought to be 700 or 800 men.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—9.15 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

The telegraph line will be run to Anderson's Mill to-night. Please have your operators open an office on your arrival at that place.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

You will leave Tyler's division in its present position to-morrow.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—1 a. m.

The Second Corps, with the Sixth Corps on the right, and Burnside's army on the left, will attack the enemy's intrenchments to-day from the point at which they were taken possession of on the 12th.

The attack will be made at 4 a. m., or as soon after as the troops get in position. The first line of the Second Corps will be Gibbon's and Barlow's divisions, Gibbon on the right, supported by Birney's and Tyler's divisions. After the infantry has passed, the artillery will take position near the Landrum house, and at the deserted house, in order to afford such assistance as may be practicable with artillery. The engineer troops will follow the command with the pioneer tools. The ammunition trains will be parked as near the command as possible after the infantry has passed. Headquarters until the time of assault will be at the deserted house.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

The command will move to-night as follows: The Second Division, General Gibbon, at 9 p. m., crossing the Ny at the deserted house, moving to a point near Anderson's Mill, where the Massaponax Church road crosses the Ny. A staff officer will accompany the division to point out the position for bivouac. The Third Division, Major-General Birney, will follow the Second, moving out in succession from the right. The First Division will follow the Third. The artillery, except a section near the point known as the Salient, will be withdrawn at dark and taken across the Ny under the direction of the chief of artillery, and parked near the Anderson house. The ammunition wagons now parked near the deserted house will be moved at dark, under the direction of Captain McEntee, assistant quartermaster, to a point near the Anderson house, and will join their respective divisions in the morning. On arriving near Anderson's Mill the troops will be massed on the left-hand side of the road, leaving the road perfectly clear. Ambulances and medicine wagons will move as soon as the road is clear of troops, and will park near where the troops are massed. The pickets will remain until withdrawn under the direction of the corps officer of the day, who will report for instructions to these headquarters.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 18, 1864—8.25 a. m.

[Lieutenant-Colonel MORGAN:]

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that my division occupies a line a short distance this side of the enemy's rifle-pits, some of them having fallen back in some confusion from the line of pits carried when the assault was made.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 18, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you occupy the right of the line of rifle-pits terminating near the Scott house, connecting with the First Division in the rifle-pits, and with your picket-line, which is to be well advanced.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Second Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Burnside requests that a staff officer of your command be sent to these headquarters at 4 o'clock this p. m. A party will leave at that hour to go over the road that is to be followed this night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. G. LORING,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Assistant Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that the timber in front of the position occupied by General Mott and Colonel Blaisdell be felled so as to make the abatis more formidable. He wishes also that as much timber be felled on your right flank as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that when you withdraw you take the position you held yesterday along the rifle-pits near the Landrum house, relieving General Barlow from the rifle-pits. You will be finally withdrawn under General Burnside's orders. This change is made at the instance of General Burnside, who deems his right flank in danger. General Barlow's pickets will not be relieved by you, but the entire picket-line will be relieved under General Burnside's directions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

BEVERLY HOUSE, *May* 18, 1864—7.20 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

We opened from our rifled guns a little after 4 o'clock, but the fog and smoke made our firing very uncertain. The enemy fired back but little. We have developed a battery pretty well to our left hidden by the woods. The enemy's guns can be seen about the Court-House now that the fog has lifted. The Sixth Corps pickets are withdrawn, but I have established a line of my own and am pushing them out on my left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

I have no report from the cavalry on my left.

MAY 18, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy replied to us with about sixteen guns at 7.30 a. m. and kept it up for about twenty minutes. I have heard from the cavalry. They are down at Smith's Bridge; and have directed them to establish a picket-line along Ny River to connect with me.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

9.15 A. M.

General Crawford has pushed his pickets well out to the left and found no enemy. Colonel Kitching sent a patrol 2 miles down the left bank of the Ny, but found none of our cavalry or the enemy.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

BEVERLY HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
May 18, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

The atmosphere is very clear. Can see no change in the number of enemy's guns or troops in front of your corps. Our shells explode directly over the enemy's works but fall short of the Court-House.

Very respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the attack on the right is abandoned, and that Tyler's division is ordered back immediately to the Anderson house. Wright to follow and take his former position, extending his left to and across the Anderson mill-pond.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 18, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

I have just learned that the connection with Crawford has been made, and that all is right.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel OSBORN,
Acting Assistant Inspector-General:

SIR: You will proceed at once to the main train in the vicinity of Fredericksburg, and with the assistance of Captain McDonald, of the Engineers, bring up all headquarter and other unauthorized guards (no guards are authorized), and all orderlies not on duty, musicians, bandmen, stragglers, and skulks, to these headquarters. Consult with Colonel Owen, assistant quartermaster, in the execution of this duty. Search also the vicinity of Fredericksburg.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel OWEN:

I have sent Lieutenant-Colonel Osborn to bring up all unauthorized guards, stragglers, musicians, &c., to these headquarters, that may be about your train. Captain McDonald will bring them up with his command, leaving only a portion sufficient to take proper care of his pontoon train.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

P. S.—Have the division quartermaster furnish badges for the men, say 500 to each division.

G. K. WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

Captain McDONALD:

SIR: You will please leave with the pontoon train one company or so much of your command, more or less, as is required to take care of the pontoon train, and proceed to-morrow morning to these headquarters, bringing your necessary wagons and tools. Lieutenant-Colonel Osborn is going down to bring up all stragglers, unauthorized guards, musicians, &c., and you will please assist him in collecting them, and bring them with your command.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I send the following dispatch, just received. We shall learn more soon:

HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE HEAVY ARTILLERY,
May 18, 1864—11.15 a. m.

GENERAL: I am informed by the cavalry that the enemy have thrown out a strong line of skirmishers, infantry, and are advancing with heavy support toward my front.

J. HOWARD KITCHING,
Colonel.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 18, 1864—3.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My pickets report the enemy concentrating on our left. I suppose this is owing to the movement of our own forces in that direction, which must be plainly visible to them.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 18, 1864—4.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Crawford sends me word that upon investigation he finds no indication of enemy increasing on his left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 18, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The left of my line of battle is about 600 yards in advance of the Sixth Corps at the Myers house, and terminates on a line about southwest from that house. We are quite close to the enemy's rifle-pits at this point, and our skirmishers in many places to-day have driven his into his intrenchments. In a line about southwest from the Myers house the rebel lines appear to make an angle off to the southwest toward the Po River, and nothing but his mounted men are to be seen east of that line. In front of the Sixth Corps, too, is a great deal of open country, and, if I am correctly informed by General Crawford and officers of my staff, you can march south and southwest from the Myers house a mile, perhaps, without opposition. I am, however, close up to the enemy along my whole front, and in easy musket-range of their main line. I think, if other movements are not against it, the Sixth Corps should advance somewhat, as my left flank stands out uncovered entirely, except by some retiring breast-works which I have constructed. I have not troops enough to extend back to the Sixth Corps, and it would not be a good location for them if I had. My line of battle is in advance of where the Sixth Corps picketed yesterday.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I am instructed to inform you that General Hancock will withdraw after 9 o'clock this evening, and General Burnside will follow him, and take post on Wright's left. Early to-morrow morning Wright and Burnside will advance close up to the enemy's position. Your left is well enough covered to-night by the position of the Sixth Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 18, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I felt no apprehension about the safety of my left, but I thought I should inform you of its condition, so that General Wright might know it too. I will send you a sketch of our position this evening. We used twenty-six guns to-day, and fired about 1,800 rounds. The enemy replied with almost as many. He fired from 20-pounders, 10-pounders, 12-pounders, and 3-inch guns. Our casualties are about 4 killed and 16 wounded. My men were all sheltered by parapets and have now their ears well accustomed to heavy-artillery firing.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Burnside will move by daylight to-morrow, and leave you on the right flank. There will be nothing to your right or rear. You should, therefore, remove all your trains, artillery, &c., this side of the Fredericksburg road, and you had better send a brigade to the Harris house or vicinity to keep a watch.

MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch relating to movements to-morrow morning is received. I will send Colonel Kitching to the point you have indicated My right flank line is already intrenched.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

GENERAL: General Warren requests that you have all the intrenching tools (if you are done with them) collected together and piled in one place, and they will be sent for.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To division commanders.)

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
Near Myers' House, May 18, 1864.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have investigated the report sent to you. It originated with the Maryland Brigade. I can discover nothing but cavalry vedettes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
Left of line of battle, near Myers' House, May 18, 1864.

GENERAL: The enemy has opened a battery which has an oblique fire on the batteries on my right. His fire is not repeated, although an angle of one of the limbers has been broken. The skirmish line has advanced a considerable distance without finding the enemy's pickets. It is going on slowly until they are found. The enemy can be seen near the Gate at which we saw them yesterday. At the Ny River the batteries will open more frequently.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA RESERVES,
THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

[Captain MARVIN:]

CAPTAIN: The enemy made a charge upon the Bucktails, who were holding the crest of a ridge in advance of my picket-line on the right, at 9 o'clock to-night, and forced them back. Part of the Eighty-third New York, who had relieved the picket-line, fell back also. Colonel Coulter, to whose brigade they belonged, went to the front to establish the line, when he was wounded, the ball striking a rib in the region of the left breast and going round under the skin. The picket-line has been re-enforced and re-established. The enemy are intrenching the crest of the ridge from which they drove the picket. As I reported to the general, the value of this ridge was, that it gave the Rifles control of a battery of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: General Warren desired me to forward this dispatch, just received, 10.50 p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. BRIGADE HEAVY ARTILLERY,
May 18, 1864—8 a. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: My company which I ordered to the left has returned. I send the officer who went with it. He reports that he proceeded down the left bank of the river for 2 miles and found no cavalry or infantry. I have sent out another party to advance still farther. Will report on their return.

J. HOWARD KITCHING,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864. (Received 12 midnight.)

Colonel KITCHING:

I shall want you to-morrow at daybreak to move your command to the vicinity of the Harris house, to which place Captain Cope will guide you, and picket very strong our right flank from General Cutler's right flank on Ny River outside the country north as far as you can, covering the pike to Fredericksburg. All our troops are going to be moved to the left of our corps.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I do not believe there is any point of the enemy's front on my line that can be attacked with any reasonable prospect of success, and therefore advise that the attack be no further prosecuted. Certainly I can find no such point.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have already reported my opinion against the further prosecution of the attack on the enemy's works, based partly on personal examination and partly on the report of Ricketts, who says he cannot advance successfully. I shall wait further orders for withdrawing.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 18, 1864—3.15 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that as soon as you reach your former position on the left of General Warren, you move forward as close to the enemy as you can get without attacking him in his works and there intrench yourself. General Burnside will be withdrawn to-morrow before daylight and take position on your left as close to the enemy as he can get without attacking him in his works and there intrench. It was intended that you should move forward at the same time with Burnside, but the commanding general thinks you had better take your position at once.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—7.20 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

A construction party will be at the Myers house at daylight to-morrow, prepared to extend the telegraph line to your headquarters. Will you please have some one indicate to the party where your headquarters will be to-morrow.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: Understanding that two regiments of this corps, Eighty-second and Twenty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, recently returned from duty at Sandusky, Ohio, are retained for guard duty at Belle Plain, I respectfully request that they may be ordered at once to the corps. I would respectfully suggest that it would be for the interest of the service to assign new regiments to depot duty and send the veteran regiments to the front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

The forward movement of the corps, ordered to take place at daylight, will commence at 3 a. m. to-morrow instead. The First, Second, and Third Divisions will move in the order named by the flank. Colonel Upton, general officer of the day, will advance the skirmish line at the time appointed, pressing it forward as far as possible without attacking. General Burnside is to move up upon the left of the corps.

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. MCMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

No vulnerable point presenting itself in the front now occupied, there will be no attack to-day. You will therefore assume a defensive position, holding yourself in readiness for being withdrawn to your left at short notice.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 18, 1864—3 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Inclosed please find copy of instructions* from lieutenant-general commanding to Major-General Meade, which embraces the directions for your next movement and by which you will be governed. In moving from your present position to your new march your infantry by the rear of Generals Warren and Wright, keeping on the same side of the Ny you now are, if practicable, and send your artillery and wagons around by the road. Commence your movement immediately after General Hancock takes up his line of march.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 18, 1864—6.10 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The same road will be used from here to Fredericksburg after our first move as now, so that the position of Ferrero's command will not be changed at present. Warren does not move.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Hancock telegraphs he will leave Birney's division to cover your flank, in accordance with my orders. Please see that Birney's and Hancock's pickets are withdrawn when you are ready to move.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—6.10 a. m.

General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have advanced the whole of my line some little distance. I connect with General Barlow's division, of Hancock's

*See Grant to Meade, May 18, p. 864.

corps, which is awaiting orders before attempting a farther advance. I suppose I had better advance simultaneously. Barlow's advance keeps overlapping my line so that I can't advance much farther. I think I had better use my spare troops to support Crittenden, and to assist Barlow in case of reverse.

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—10 p. m.

In accordance with orders received from headquarters Armies of the United States to-day, this command will move in the following order, viz: General Potter's division will commence the movement at 2 a. m. to-morrow by the left flank, and as soon as General Crittenden's left is uncovered he will move by the left flank, following General Potter, and General Willcox following General Crittenden in like manner. The pickets will be left out until 4 a. m., after which they will be withdrawn by the division officers of the day, following the command. The batteries and ammunition wagons will follow their respective divisions. Such of the caissons and ammunition wagons as have already gone in rear of the Anderson house will remain there until the command gets in position. The line of march will be over the road followed by the officers of division who accompanied Colonel Loring yesterday. General Birney will move at 2 o'clock, withdrawing his line of pickets with General Hancock's at 4 o'clock. It is very important that this movement should be conducted so that the rear of General Willcox's column may be out of position before daylight, and General Potter is authorized to commence the movement at 1 o'clock, if necessary, for the accomplishment of this object, in which case he will notify the other division commanders, also General Birney, who will start at the same time with General Potter. Everything appertaining to the division not going with the column will go to the Anderson house. General Birney will pursue the line of march of General Hancock's corps. The command will be in position to-morrow where it can be reached by its supplies, and it is very desirable that the order of General Grant in reference to subsistence be carried out as nearly as possible.

Very respectfully,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT.
Washington, D. C., May 18, 1864—12.50 a. m.

Brigadier-General MEIGS,
Belle Plain:

A telegram from General Abercrombie just received states our depot at Belle Plain and trains to be threatened. If this be so, the request for you to return here is countermanded, and you will remain at Belle Plain to take such measures as the safety of that place and our trains may require.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 18, 1864—8 a. m.
(Received 9.35 a. m.)

WAR DEPARTMENT:

I have some ammunition on my hands here. Having no transportation to furnish the troops on their arrival here en route to the army, this surplus ammunition was left behind. I omitted in my dispatch of midnight May 17 to say that the attack by guerrillas was made at 3 p. m. yesterday. I did not receive the information until 11 o'clock last night, by Captain Nicholls, whose command was attacked and his guide wounded. Mosby is dressed in our uniform. Two hundred and fifty cavalry (Eighth Illinois) are on his track.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *May* 18, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Belle Plain, Va.:

General Augur will immediately send cavalry re-enforcements. In the mean time use any troops that may arrive for the defense of depot and trains

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, *May* 18, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Belle Plain, Va.:

Such of the Reserve Artillery sent back by General Grant as are not required for the defense of your depot will be forwarded to Washington.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 18, 1864—8.30 p. m.

WAR DEPARTMENT:

I will have, with the cavalry coming, sufficient force. The force for Colonel Schriver has started—280 cavalry, in command of Major McIrvin; 1,850 heavy artillery, in command of Colonel Kellogg, Second Connecticut Artillery, has arrived and gone forward. The Ninth New York Heavy Artillery has reported, 1,900 strong. Will hurry them on, escorting trains.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 18, 1864.

General AUGUR:

Please send immediately to Belle Plain the remainder of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and such of the Army of the Potomac cavalry as can be remounted.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS OF ARTILLERY, U. S. ARMY,
Washington, May 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit herewith a report of the inspection of the defenses of Washington, made by order of the Secretary of War.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. P. HOWE,
Brigadier-General, Inspector of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS INSPECTOR OF ARTILLERY,
Washington, May 17, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

SIR: In compliance with the directions of the Secretary of War, received on the 29th ultimo, I have made an inspection of the works in the defenses of this city, and beg leave to submit the following report of the inspection: My time being broken by court duties, I was unable to make but little progress in the inspection until the 10th instant, and since that time the movement of troops within the line of defenses has somewhat embarrassed the completion of the inspection. The character and strength of the troops garrisoning the different forts, their discipline, drill, and efficiency, the kind and extent of the armament, the condition and supply of the magazines, ammunition, and implements are found in this report under the names of the respective forts. After a careful examination of the line of works I am of the opinion that they are ample in their engineering and artillery strength for the purpose for which they were intended—the defense of Washington. The works on the south side of the Potomac may be divided into three classes: First, those which immediately cover approaches to the city, and are within artillery command of the city; second, those which cover approaches, and are beyond the range of artillery command; third, those which do not cover approaches to the city, and are beyond the range of artillery from the city. Of the first class, which I regard as the most important, are the works extending from Fort C. F. Smith on the right to Forts Richardson and Scott on the left, inclusive. The consecutive works in this line are within close artillery support of each other and with good field of fire. Forts Corcoran, Whipple, and Albany, Bennett, Haggerty, and Runyon are interior works of this class, Forts Whipple and Corcoran being of the first importance, having a strong command over five of the works in the front line. Fort Runyon is out of repair, and is at present unoccupied. It holds, however, an important position, being at the head of Long Bridge, and if occupied would hold the bridge and guard it from a surprise. I recommend that it be put in order and occupied. The exterior works of this class are connected with a strong earthen epaulement, and extending along the line of works to the Potomac on the left, with embrasures for light artillery at favorable points. If this class of works is held, it is not, in my judgment, in the power of an enemy seriously to annoy Washington with a fire from the south side of the river. With an artillery strength of men sufficient to develop the fire of the forts, and a proper support of infantry, I am of opinion that the works cannot be carried by an assault.

The weakest feature in this line of works, and it obtains more or less throughout the whole line of the defenses, is their liability to be surprised. The garrisons of the works, with the exception of small guards, are quartered outside the works. No infantry force has been kept between and near the line of the works. The outpost guards have been very weak. The character of the topography of the country for miles outside of the works, with the numerous roads, all favor and invite a sudden and covered dash upon the works.

With a view to strengthen the works in this particular, I recommend that regiments of the [Veteran] Reserve Corps be stationed at the following points: One regiment between Forts Richardson and Craig; one regiment between Forts Craig and Tillinghast; one regiment between Forts Tillinghast and Woodbury and in advance of Fort Whipple; one regiment between Forts Woodbury and Strong and in advance of Fort Corcoran; one regiment between Forts Worth and Ward; one regiment between Forts Garesché and Berry, and one regiment between Forts Ethan Allen and Marcy.

From the troops of the Reserve Corps thus posted I recommend that the officers commanding the defenses south of the Potomac be instructed to establish outposts as follows: A picket reserve of three companies at Ball's Cross-Roads; a picket reserve of three companies at Bailey's Cross-Roads; a picket reserve of two companies on the Little River pike, between Clover Hill and Hunting Creek; a picket reserve of two companies on the Leesburg and Georgetown pike at the cross-roads, between Langley and Fort Marcy. I recommend that the best instructed and most efficient artillery troops in the line of defenses be kept in the works of the first class. Forts Ethan Allen and Marcy, in the second class, cover the approaches to the city by the Chain Bridge; they are in close artillery support of each other, but beyond the range of artillery support from the nearest work (Fort Smith) on their left. If the cover of these works and their connections are properly manned it is believed they cannot be carried by assault. From the position of these works they do not offer advantages sufficient to an enemy, if possessed, to make them worth the operations of a siege; they do not immediately command the bridge, and the right bank of the river at the head of the bridge is commanded by Batteries Vermont, Cameron, Kemble, and Parrott on the left bank, and the bridge is swept by Battery Martin Scott on the left bank. The strength of artillerymen at Battery Martin Scott I do not consider sufficient. I found but 1 non-commissioned officer and 3 men in charge of four guns. I recommend that 1 officer, 4 non-commissioned officers, and 24 men be allowed this battery.

The works of the third class, extending to the left from Fort Berry to the Potomac, do not immediately command approaches to the city, and are beyond artillery range from it. They, however, command important ground, and cover the depot at Alexandria, and are in good supporting distance; and they are sufficiently strong, if properly manned, to resist an assault. The possession of them would offer no objective point to an enemy that would render them liable to a siege.

Battery Rodgers, below Alexandria, and Fort Foote, on the left bank of the river, are important works for river defense. Battery Rodgers received ammunition for its two guns on the 9th instant, and Fort Foote ammunition for its 15-inch guns on the 13th instant. From the length of time that is necessarily occupied in serving guns of the caliber in these two works, and the unfavorable heighth of

these batteries above the water-line for accuracy of firing, the guns of the two works do not afford sufficient reliable fire as would insure the checking of an attempt to pass the batteries. I would, therefore, recommend that these two works be furnished with the full armament for which they are constructed, and that they be manned by efficient artillerists. The works on the north side of the Potomac are a continuous line of forts from Fort Sumner, on the river above the city, to Fort Greble, on the river below the city. The forts in this line are in artillery support of each other, and connected throughout by earthern epaulements. Fort Gaines is an interior work. The most important position of this line is that part included between Forts Sumner and Slocum, as it covers the approaches to the city on the river line of roads. The most important works in this portion of the line are Forts Stevens, Reno, Sumner, and Slocum. The portion of the line between Fort Slocum and the Eastern Branch is less liable to be assailed, and that portion of the line east of the Eastern Branch the least liable to attack of any part of the whole defenses. The most important works between Fort Slocum and the Eastern Branch are Forts Lincoln, Bunker Hill, and Totten.

The most important works east of the Eastern Branch are Forts Stanton, Carroll, and Greble, which, from their position, are in range of the Arsenal and Navy-Yard, and Fort Stanton in easy command of both. With a view to guard these works from a surprise, I recommend that regiments of the Reserve Corps be stationed at the following points: One regiment between Forts Sumner and Mansfield, one regiment near Fort Reno, one regiment near Fort Stevens, one regiment between Forts Slocum and Totten, one regiment between Forts Lincoln and Bunker Hill; the officer commanding the division north of the Potomac to establish a picket-line from this force. The cavalry force at the fords of the Potomac, beginning at Great Falls and extending to the Monocacy, is sufficient, as is the force on the south side to guard the railroad. The forts throughout the line are advanced to completion, sufficient for defensive purposes, except Forts Ward and Stanton, in which I found but few guns mounted, and the work on them progressing but slowly.

The guards at the different bridges I think have been insufficient, and the guard duty generally loosely and carelessly performed. This has arisen in some degree from the guards being composed of detachments of companies and commanded by non-commissioned officers. I recommend that the following changes be made in the guards at the bridges: One full company at Fort Jackson, at the head of Long Bridge; one full company at the new stockade at the head of Aqueduct Bridge; one full company at the Georgetown head of the Chain Bridge, with a guard of 10 men and 2 non-commissioned officers from this company at the iron gates of the bridge; one platoon of a company at the Navy-Yard bridge, and the other platoon of the same company at the upper bridge of the Eastern Branch. The performance of the guard duty as required by the regulations of the service should be rigidly enforced. There is no communication between the forts by signal, nor between the outside and the forts. Signals are made from the outside of the works directly to department headquarters, and from thence to headquarters of the division south of the Potomac by telegraph. I recommend that signal communication be had between the outside and the forts, and between the forts. The roadways within the line of defenses are ample and sufficiently good for practical purposes.

Subsistence is readily obtained from the depots in the line, and twenty days' kept on hand in the works south of Hunting Creek and at Forts Ethan Allen and Marcy. The other works keep ten days' supply on hand. I am of opinion that it would promote the health, discipline, drill, and efficiency of the Reserve Corps to encamp them without the limits of the city, but within the line of defense, leaving in the city only guards for hospitals, public property, and provost duty. I recommend that they be encamped at the following points: One camp near Fort Gaines, one camp between Batteries Cameron and Vermont, one camp between Fort Scott and Fort Craig, one camp near Alexandria Seminary. These points are favorable for reserves and are accessible from all points of the line, and would afford advantages to the troops for improvement that they cannot have within the limits of the city. I observed in the inspection, too, generally, a want of observance of the regulations of the service which requires the marking of clothing, knapsacks, canteens, and haversacks. This omission was very marked in the Second and Seventh New York Regiments. The Ninth New York Heavy Artillery was changed during the inspection from the north to the south side of the river, and I inspected it in the works previously occupied by the First Connecticut. I regret to state that I found this regiment, in point of discipline and drill (both in artillery and infantry), much less efficient than any regiment in the line of defenses. The men of this regiment are generally young, active, and intelligent men, and the fault lies mainly with the commanding officer of the regiment, Colonel Welling. The condition of the regiment bears unmistakable evidence that the colonel of the regiment is not fit for the command.

Fort C. F. Smith, Maj. W. A. McKay commanding.—Garrison, four companies Second New York Heavy Artillery—1 major, 15 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 548 men. Armament, three 12-pounder field howitzers, two 6-pounder field guns, four 24-pounder siege guns, one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer, six 4½-inch ordnance, and four 8-inch siege mortars. Magazines, two; dry and in serviceable condition. Ammunition, full supply and well packed. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, very ordinary; wants improving much. Drill in infantry, insufficient; wants more energy and attention given to it. Discipline, great want of improvement. Garrison is sufficient.

Fort Strong, Major Maguire commanding.—Garrison, three companies Second New York Heavy Artillery—1 major, 10 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 410 men. Armament, one 24-pounder field howitzer, five 24-pounder siege guns, one 6-pounder field gun, two 24-pounder howitzers, four 30-pounder Parrotts, and two 10-inch siege mortars. Magazines, two; not entirely dry, one recently repaired. Ammunition, full supply; serviceable condition. Implements, full sets; serviceable. Drill in artillery, indifferent; requires improving. Drill in infantry, very deficient; much labor is required to bring it to an efficient condition. Discipline, deficient; fault of the officer in command; he needs more energy and efficiency. Garrison is of sufficient strength.

Fort Bennett, Major Maguire commanding.—Garrison, one company Second New York Heavy Artillery—3 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 117 men. Armament, three 24-pounder siege guns and two 8-inch sea-coast howitzers. Magazine, one; leaks in places. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements,

complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison sufficient for the work.

Fort Corcoran, Lieut. Col. J. Palmer commanding.—Garrison, three companies Second New York Heavy Artillery—1 lieutenant-colonel, 8 commissioned officers, 396 men, 1 ordnance-sergeant. Armament, two 8-inch sea-coast howitzers, two 12-pounder heavy guns, four 12-pounder light Napoleons, and three 10-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, three; two serviceable, one unserviceable and being repaired. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, full sets and serviceable. Drill in artillery, very ordinary; wants improving much. Drill in infantry, very deficient; fault is in the officer in command; but little attention seems to have been given to improvement. Discipline, low state; shows inefficiency in the command. Garrison is amply sufficient.

Fort Haggerty, Capt. Charles L. Smith commanding.—Garrison, one company Second New York Heavy Artillery—1 captain, 3 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 164 men. Armament, four 24-pounder siege guns. Magazines, one; dry, well-packed, and serviceable. Ammunition, full supply; in a good condition. Implements, complete. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, wants improving much. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison is more than necessary.

Fort Woodbury, Maj. N. Shatswell commanding.—Garrison, two companies First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery—1 major, 10 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 356 men. Armament, four 6-pounder James (rifled), four 24-pounder siege (smooth), one 24-pounder F. D. howitzer (smooth), three 30-pounder Parrotts (rifled), one 24-pounder Coehorn mortar. Magazines, two; dry, and a new one being built. Ammunition, full supply and well packed and in good condition. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, fair; approaching good. Drill in infantry, commendable degree of efficiency. Discipline, fair. Garrison sufficient.

Fort Cass, Maj. N. Shatswell commanding.—Garrison, two companies First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery—8 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 220 men. Armament, three 6-pounder field guns (smooth), five 20-pounder Parrotts (rifled), three 24-pounder siege guns (smooth), one 24-pounder F. D. howitzer (smooth), one 24-pounder Coehorn mortar. Magazines, two; dry and in good condition. Ammunition, full supply, well packed and in serviceable condition. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison sufficient for the work.

Fort Whipple, Major Rolfe commanding.—Garrison, three companies First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery—1 major, 13 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 414 men. Armament, six 12-pounder field guns (smooth), four 12-pounder field howitzers (smooth), eight 12-pounder James guns (rifled), eleven 4.5-inch ordnance. Magazines, four; two not in a serviceable condition. Ammunition, full supply; good condition. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison sufficient; interior work.

Fort Tillinghast, Major Rolfe commanding.—Garrison, two companies First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery—7 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 220 men. Armament, one 24-pounder field howitzer (smooth), two 20-pounder Parrotts (rifled), three 24-pounder siege guns (smooth), one 24-pounder F. D. howitzer, four

30-pounder Parrotts (rifled), two 24-pounder Coehorn mortars. Magazines being rebuilt; at present unserviceable; work progressing slowly; ammunition kept in bomb-proof. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison sufficient for the work.

Fort Craig, Major Holt commanding.—Garrison, two companies First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery—15 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 280 men. Armament, one 24-pounder field howitzer, four 24-pounder siege, five 30-pounder Parrotts, one Coehorn mortar, one 10-inch mortar. Magazines, two; dry and in good condition. Ammunition, full supply and in good condition. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison of sufficient strength.

Fort Albany, Captain Rhodes commanding.—Garrison, one company First Massachusetts Volunteers—5 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 145 men. Armament, two 24-pounder field howitzers, four 24-pounder siege, two 30-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, two; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and in good condition. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison of sufficient strength.

Fort Scott, Major Trumbull commanding.—Garrison, one company First Connecticut Heavy Artillery—4 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 137 men. Armament, two 12-pounder mountain howitzers, two 6-pounder James (rifled). Magazines, two; dry and in good condition. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison sufficient for the work.

Fort Richardson, Major Trumbull commanding.—Garrison, three companies First Connecticut Heavy Artillery—1 major, 12 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 412 men. Armament, two 24-pounder field howitzers, six 24-pounder siege (smooth), one 100-pounder rifled Parrott, three 30-pounder rifled Parrotts, two 24-pounder Coehorn mortars, one 10-inch mortar. Magazines, two; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison sufficient for the work.

Fort Rodgers, Major Meservey commanding.—Garrison, one company First Wisconsin Volunteers—1 major, 5 commissioned officers, 203 men. Armament, one 15-inch Rodman gun, one 200-pounder Parrott (rifled). Magazines, two; dry and in good condition. Ammunition, supplies received May 9, 1864. Implements, complete, good order. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison larger than necessary.

Fort Lyon, Major Campbell commanding.—Garrison, five companies Tenth New York Heavy Artillery—1 major, 18 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 627 men. Armament, seven 6-pounder field guns (smooth), ten 32-pounder sea-coast (smooth), ten 24-pounder siege guns (smooth), five 30-pounder Parrotts (rifled), four 24-pounder Coehorn mortars, and two 10-inch siege mortars. Magazines, one; dry in and good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary; needs improving. Drill in infantry, very indif-

ferent; requires more energy and attention from the officer in command to make them efficient. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison is of sufficient strength.

Fort Weed, Major Campbell commanding.—Garrison, one company Tenth New York Heavy Artillery—5 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 122 men. Armament, two 12-pounder field howitzers (smooth), three 24-pounder siege guns (smooth), six 30-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, ordinary; wants improving. Drill in infantry, very indifferent; wants improving much. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison of sufficient strength.

Fort Farnsworth, Major Campbell commanding.—Garrison, one company Tenth New York Heavy Artillery—3 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 128 men. Armament, two 12-pounder field howitzers (smooth), four 4½-inch ordnance (rifled), four 24-pounder siege guns (smooth). Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and good condition. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, ordinary; needs improving. Drill in infantry, very indifferent; wants labor and attention to become efficient. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison of sufficient strength.

Fort O'Rorke, Captain Armstrong commanding.—Garrison, two companies Tenth New York Heavy Artillery—6 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 242 men. Armament, two 12-pounder field howitzers (smooth), six 20-pounder Parrotts (rifled), one 24-pounder siege gun (smooth), two 8-inch sea-coast howitzers, two 24-pounder Coehorn mortars. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and in good order. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary. Drill in infantry, very indifferent; wants improving much. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison of sufficient strength.

Fort Willard, Major Abell commanding.—Garrison, three companies Tenth New York Heavy Artillery—11 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 358 men. Armament, two 12-pounder field howitzers, four 6-pounder James, four 4½-inch ordnance, two 24-pounder siege guns (smooth), two 24-pounder Coehorn mortars, two 10-inch siege mortars. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and in good order. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary; needs improving. Drill in infantry, very indifferent; needs much improving. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison is of sufficient strength.

Fort Ellsworth, Major Rice commanding.—Garrison, four companies Second Connecticut Heavy Artillery—1 major, 18 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 532 men. Armament, four 6-pounder field guns (smooth), three 24-pounder siege guns (smooth), nine 8-inch sea-coast howitzers (smooth), one 100-pounder Parrott (rifled), three 30-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, two; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, ordinary. Discipline, fair. Garrison of sufficient strength.

Fort Williams, Major Ells commanding.—Garrison, two companies Second Connecticut Heavy Artillery—1 major, 18 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 562 men. Armament, two 24-pounder field howitzers (smooth), four 10-pounder Parrotts, six 4½-inch ordnance, one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer, two 24-pounder

Coehorn mortars. Magazines, two; dry and in excellent order. Ammunition, full supply and in good order. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison is of sufficient strength.

Fort Worth, Major Hubbard commanding.—Garrison, two companies Second Connecticut Heavy Artillery—1 major, 1 ordnance-sergeant. Armament, two 20-pounder Parrotts, two 12-pounder Whitworth guns (rifled), five 12-pounder Napoleons, five 4½-inch ordnance, eight 24-pounder siege guns (smooth), two 100-pounder Parrotts, two 24-pounder Coehorn mortars, four 10-inch siege mortars. Magazines, dry and in serviceable condition. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison is of sufficient strength.

Fort Ward, Major Hemingway commanding.—Garrison, three companies First Connecticut Heavy Artillery—1 major, 12 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 401 men. Armament, two 10-pounder Parrotts, five 4½-inch ordnance, five 32-pounder sea-coast, six 24-pounder siege guns, one 100-pounder Parrott, one 24-pounder Coehorn mortar, seven 8-inch siege mortars. Magazines, three; two serviceable, one unserviceable; new ones being built. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable (but seven guns of this work were mounted and ready for action; work not completed). Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, ordinary. Discipline, fair. Garrison is sufficient for the work.

Fort Garesché, Lieutenant Logan commanding.—Garrison, one company First Connecticut Heavy Artillery—4 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 144 men. Armament, two 32-pounder field howitzers (smooth), five 24-pounder Parrotts, two 8-inch sea-coast howitzers, two 24-pounder Coehorn mortars. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, ordinary. Discipline, fair. Garrison of sufficient strength.

Fort Reynolds, Major Hemingway commanding.—Garrison, one company First Connecticut Heavy Artillery—3 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 147 men. Armament, four 12-pounder field howitzers, four 32-pounder sea-coast guns, three 30-pounder Parrotts, two 24-pounder Coehorn mortars. Magazines, two; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, ordinary. Discipline, fair. Garrison weak for this armament.

Fort Barnard, Major Cook commanding.—Garrison, two companies First Connecticut Heavy Artillery—1 major, 1 ordnance-sergeant. —— men. Armament, three 24-pounder field howitzers, six 32-pounder sea-coast guns, three 24-pounder siege guns, two 8-inch sea-coast howitzers, three 30-pounder Parrotts, one 24-pounder Coehorn mortar, and one 10-inch siege mortar. Magazines, two; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and in good condition. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison is sufficient.

Fort Berry, Major Cook commanding.—Garrison, one company First Connecticut Heavy Artillery—1 ordnance-sergeant [*sic*]. Armament, four 24-pounder field howitzers, two 4½-inch ordnance, two

8-inch howitzers. Magazines, one; dry and in good condition. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, ordinary. Discipline, fair. Garrison is sufficient.

Fort Ethan Allen, Col. A. A. Gibson commanding.—Garrison, nine companies Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery—1 colonel, 29 commissioned officers, 1,346 men, and 1 ordnance-sergeant. Armament, nine 6-pounder field guns, three 10-pounder Parrotts, three 32-pounder bronze howitzers, four 24-pounder siege guns, two 8-inch sea-coast howitzers, eleven 30-pounder Parrotts, six 24-pounder Coehorn mortars, four 10-inch siege mortars. Magazines, four; dry and serviceable. Ammunition, full supply and in good order. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary; needs improving. Drill in infantry, very indifferent; needs much improving. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison larger than necessary. Cavalry garrison, one company (E) Thirteenth New York Cavalry—2 commissioned officers, 78 enlisted men, 53 equipped, 52 horses.

Fort Marcy, Maj. J. L. Anderson commanding.—Garrison, three companies Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery—1 major, 8 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 430 men. Armament, two 12-pounder mountain howitzers, three 20-pounder Parrotts, three 10-pounder Parrotts, three 24-pounder siege guns, six 30-pounder Parrotts, two 24-pounder Coehorn mortars, one 10-inch siege mortar. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary; needs improving. Drill in infantry, indifferent; needs much improving. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison stronger than necessary.

Fort Sumner, Col. Daniel Chaplin commanding.—Garrison, six companies First Maine Heavy Artillery—1 colonel, 30 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 868 men. Armament, six 6-pounder field guns, four 12-pounder field guns, eight 30-pounder barbette, three 8-inch siege howitzers, two Coehorn mortars, one 10-inch mortar, six 4½-inch rifled, two 100-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, two; only one of which is dry and in good condition. Ammunition, not a full supply; serviceable. Implements, full set and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison is sufficient.

Battery Vermont, Lieut. George Rollins.—Garrison, one company First Maine Heavy Artillery—1 commissioned officer, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 27 men. Armament, three 32-pounder barbette. Magazines, one; not dry; wants repairs. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison is sufficient.

Fort Mansfield, Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Talbot commanding.—Garrison, two companies (Third Battalion) First Maine Heavy Artillery—9 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 281 men. Armament, two 12-pounder howitzers, four 6-pounder James (rifled), one 8-inch siege howitzer, four 4½-inch (rifled). Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, full sets and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison is of sufficient strength.

Fort Simmons, Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Talbot commanding.—Garrison, two companies (Third Battalion) First Maine Heavy Artillery—1 lieutenant-colonel, 9 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-

sergeant, 289 men. Armament, two 12-pounder field howitzers, one 8-inch siege howitzer, five 30-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary; needs improving. Drill in infantry, very indifferent; needs much improving. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison is not full strength.

Battery Cameron, Maj. George W. Sabine commanding.—Garrison, one company First Maine Heavy Artillery—1 major, 5 commissioned officers 1 ordnance-sergeant, 146 men. Armament, two 42-pounder James (rifled), two 100-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, ordinary. Discipline, fair. Garrison is stronger than necessary.

Battery Parrott, Capt. Frederic E. Shaw commanding.—Garrison, one company First Maine Heavy Artillery—1 commissioned officer, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 46 men. Armament, two 100-pounder Parrots. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Garrison is sufficient.

Battery Kemble, Capt. F. E. Shaw commanding.—Garrison, one company First Maine Heavy Artillery—3 officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 54 men. Armament, two 100-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Garrison is sufficient.

Fort Kearny, Maj. E. A. Springsteed commanding.—Garrison, two companies Seventh New York Heavy Artillery—1 major, 7 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 289 men. Armament, three 24-pounder siege, three 32-pounder barbette, one 8-inch siege howitzer, three 4½-inch (rifled). Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, indifferent; needs improving. Drill in infantry, very indifferent; wants improving much. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison is of full strength.

Fort Bayard, Maj. J. M. Murphy commanding.—Garrison, one company Seventh New York Heavy Artillery—6 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 129 men. Armament, two 12-pounder field howitzers and four 30-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary; needs improving. Drill in infantry, very indifferent; needs much improving. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison is not full strength.

Battery Smead, Capt. N. H. Moore commanding.—Garrison, one company Seventh New York Heavy Artillery—1 commissioned officer, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 147 men. Armament, four 30-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, one; dry and serviceable. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary; needs improving. Drill in infantry, indifferent; needs much improving. Discipline, very indifferent. Garrison is stronger than necessary.

Fort Gaines, Capt. Charles Maguire commanding.—Garrison, one company Seventh New York Heavy Artillery—5 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 146 men. Armament, five 32-pounder barbette, one 4½-inch (rifled). Magazines, one; dry and in good order.

Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary; needs improving. Drill in infantry, indifferent; needs improving. Discipline, indifferent. Garrison is of sufficient strength.

Fort De Russy, Lieut. Col. John Hastings commanding.—Garrison, two companies Seventh New York Heavy Artillery—1 lieutenant-colonel, 10 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 289 men. Armament, three 32-pounder barbette, one Coehorn mortar, one 10-inch mortar, five 30-pounder Parrotts, one 100-pounder Parrott. Magazines, one; dry and serviceable. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary; needs improving. Drill in infantry, indifferent; needs improving much. Discipline, too loose for efficiency. Garrison is of sufficient strength.

Fort Reno, Col. Lewis O. Morris commanding.—Garrison, four companies Seventh New York Heavy Artillery—21 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 602 men. Armament, nine 24-pounder barbette, one 24-pounder F. D. howitzer, two 8-inch siege howitzers, two Coehorn mortars, two 10-inch mortars, four 30-pounder Parrotts, one 100-pounder Parrott. Magazines, two; dry and serviceable. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, indifferent; wants improving much. Drill in infantry, very indifferent; wants more energy and attention in the commanding officers. Discipline, too loose for efficiency. Garrison is ample strength.

Fort Reno, Capt. S. E. Jones commanding.—Garrison, one company Seventh New York Heavy Artillery—5 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 149 men. Armament, seven 20-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, indifferent; wants improving. Drill in infantry, very indifferent; but little attention seems to have been given to it. Discipline, deficient. Garrison is of sufficient strength.

Fort Carroll, Capt. Loring S. Richardson commanding.—Garrison, one company Eighth Unattached Heavy Artillery, Massachusetts Volunteers—4 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance sergeant, 124 men. Armament, six 12-pounder field guns, four 32-pounder barbette, two 8-inch siege howitzers, one Coehorn mortar, one 30-pounder Parrott. Magazines, two; dry and in good order. Ammunition, not a full supply, but serviceable; requisition made for full supply. Implements, complete and serviceable. Garrison drilled only as infantry.

Fort Stevens, Maj. Charles Hunsdon commanding.—Garrison, one company First Vermont Artillery—3 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance sergeant, 73 men. Armament, three 32-pounder barbette, one 8-inch siege howitzer. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, full sets and serviceable. Drill in artillery, ordinary. Drill in infantry, ordinary. Discipline, ordinary. Garrison of sufficient strength.

Fort Totten, Maj. Charles Hunsdon commanding.—Garrison, two companies First Vermont Artillery—1 major, 7 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 206 men. Armament, four 6-pounder field guns, eight 32-pounder Parrotts, two 8-inch siege howitzers, one Coehorn mortar, one 10-inch mortar, three 30-pounder Parrotts, one 100-pounder Parrott. Magazines, two; one in serviceable condition and one being repaired. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable.

Implements, complete and serviceable. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison not of sufficient strength.

Fort Slocum, Lieut. Col. R. C. Benton commanding.—Garrison, two companies First Vermont Artillery—1 lieutenant-colonel, 10 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 280 men. Armament, six 10-pounder Parrotts, three 24-pounder barbette, three 24-pounder siege, four 24-pounder F. D. howitzers, two Coehorn mortars, one 10-inch mortar, seven 4½-inch (rifled). Magazines, three; dry and in good condition. Ammunition, full supply and in good order. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison not of sufficient strength.

Fort Stevens, Lieut. Col. R. C. Benton commanding.—Garrison, two companies Eleventh Vermont Volunteers (First Vermont Heavy Artillery), one company New Hampshire Heavy Artillery (unattached)—1 lieutenant-colonel, 14 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 423 men. Armament, four 24-pounder barbette, six 24-pounder siege, two 8-inch siege howitzers, one Coehorn mortar, one 10-inch mortar, five 30-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, two; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and in good order. Implements, complete and in good order. Drill in artillery, fair. Drill in infantry, fair. Discipline, fair. Garrison of sufficient strength.

Fort Meigs and Extension, Capt. E. Schubert commanding.—Garrison, one company Ninth New York Independent Battery—3 officers and 50 men; a detachment Ninth Company Unattached Heavy Artillery, Massachusetts Volunteers, 1 officer, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 49 men. Armament, five 12-pounder guns, two 12-pounder field howitzers, five 32-pounder barbette, four 8-inch siege howitzers, one Coehorn mortar, one 10-inch mortar, two 30-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, three; two not dry, one dry and in good condition. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and in good condition. Drill in artillery, New York Battery, fair; Massachusetts detachment drilled only as infantry. Garrison only sufficient for a guard.

Fort Saratoga, Capt. Andrew Fagan commanding.—Garrison, withdrawn; works guarded by Battery H, First Pennsylvania Artillery, from Camp Barry—1 ordnance-sergeant. Armament, six 32-pounder barbette, one 8-inch siege howitzer, one Coehorn mortar. Magazines, one; dry and in good condition. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable.

Fort Du Pont, Lieut. Marcus Conant commanding.—Garrison, one-half company Ninth Unattached Company Massachusetts Artillery—1 commissioned officer, 1 ordnance-sergeant, and 39 men. Armament, two 6-pounder field guns, three 24-pounder barbette, three 8-inch siege howitzers, one Coehorn mortar. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable.

Fort Mahan.—Garrison, one company Unattached Heavy Massachusetts Artillery—1 ordnance-sergeant. Armament, three 12-pounder field guns, four 15-inch Rodman, four 24-pounder F. D. howitzers, two 8-inch siege howitzers, one Coehorn mortar, one 10-inch siege mortar, three 30-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, two; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable.

Fort Davis, Lieut. D. D. Dana commanding.—Garrison, one-half company Ninth Unattached Company Massachusetts Volunteer Artillery—1 commissioned officer, 1 ordnance-sergeant, and 32 men. Armament, five 6-pounder field guns, three 24-pounder barbette, three 8-inch siege howitzers, one Coehorn mortar. Magazines, two; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply. Implements, complete and serviceable. Garrison not drilled at artillery.

Fort Lincoln and Battery Jamison, Capt. A. W. Bradbury commanding.—Garrison, withdrawn; works guarded by First Maine Battery from Camp Barry—1 ordnance-sergeant. Armament, eight 6-pounder field guns (bronze), four 12-pounder field guns, five 24-pounder barbette, one 24-pounder siege, six 32-pounder sea-coast howitzers, two 24-pounder howitzers (F. D), two 8-inch howitzers, two Coehorn mortars, one 10-inch mortar, four 30-pounder Parrotts, one 100-pounder Parrott. Magazines, two; dry and in good order, one magazine has never had a lock. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable.

Fort Bunker Hill, Capt. Charles Heine commanding.—Garrison, withdrawn; works guarded by Fourteenth Michigan Battery, from Camp Barry—1 ordnance-sergeant. Armament, eight 32-pounder barbette, one 8-inch siege howitzer, one Coehorn mortar, one 10-inch siege mortar, one 4½-inch ordnance, two 30-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable.

Fort Thayer, Capt. H. D. Scott commanding.—Garrison, withdrawn; works guarded by Sixteenth Massachusetts Battery, from Camp Barry—1 ordnance-sergeant. Armament, four 24-pounder barbette, one 24-pounder siege, two 8-inch siege howitzers, one 24-pounder Coehorn mortar. Magazines, one; dry and in good order. Ammunition, full supply, well packed and in good order. Implements, complete and serviceable.

Fort Stanton, Capt. C. C. Bumpus commanding.—Garrison, one company Heavy Massachusetts Volunteer Artillery—2 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance sergeant, 128 men. Armament, six 32-pounder barbette, three 24-pounder F. D. howitzers, four 8-inch siege howitzers, one Coehorn mortar, one 4½-inch (rifled). Magazines, two serviceable and third being built. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Not drilled in artillery; some in infantry.

Fort Snyder, Capt. James M. Richardson commanding.—Garrison, one-half company of Twelfth Company Heavy Artillery, Massachusetts Volunteers—2 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 69 men. Armament, six 12-pounder field guns, two 8-inch siege howitzers, one Coehorn mortar. Magazines, one; dry and serviceable. Ammunition, full supply and in good order. Implements, complete and in good condition. Garrison drilled some at artillery and infantry, sufficient for guard.

Fort Baker, Lieut. William Cook commanding.—Garrison, one company Sixth Unattached Heavy Artillery, Massachusetts Volunteers—1 officer, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 136 men. Armament, eight 10-pounder Parrotts, seven 24-pounder barbette, two 24-pounder F. D. howitzers, three 8-inch siege howitzers, one Coehorn mortar, one 10-inch mortar. Magazines, two; dry and in good condition. Ammunition, full supply and in good condition. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drilled some at artillery and infantry; not efficient. Garrison sufficient for a guard.

Fort Ricketts, Lieut. Joseph M. Parsons commanding.—Garrison, one company Twelfth Unattached Heavy Artillery, Massachusetts Volunteers—1 officer, 1 ordnance-sergeant, and 32 men. Armament, three 12-pounder field guns, one 8-inch siege howitzer. Magazines, dry and in serviceable condition. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drilled but little at artillery and infantry; not efficient.

Fort Wagner, Lieut. Lewis R. Whittaker commanding.—Garrison, one company Twelfth Unattached Heavy Artillery, Massachusetts Volunteers—1 commissioned officer, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 32 men. Armament, three 12-pounder field guns, one 8-inch siege howitzer, one Coehorn mortar. Magazines, one; dry and serviceable. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Drilled but little at artillery and infantry; not much efficiency.

Fort Gregg, Capt. George S. Worcester commanding.—Garrison, one company Seventh Unattached Heavy Artillery, Massachusetts Volunteers—4 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 120 men. Armament, six 12-pounder field howitzers, six 32-pounder barbette, one 8-inch siege howitzer, one Coehorn mortar, one 10-inch mortar, one 30-pounder Parrott. Magazines, one; dry and in good condition. Ammunition, full supply and serviceable. Implements, complete and serviceable. Garrison drilled some at artillery and infantry.

Fort Foote, Capt. L. B. Whiton commanding.—Garrison, one company Unattached Heavy Artillery, Massachusetts Volunteers—5 commissioned officers, 1 ordnance-sergeant, 110 men. Armament, one 15-inch Rodman gun and two 200-pounder Parrotts. Magazines, three, only one of which is completed; completed one in good condition. Ammunition, not a full supply and not in a state of readiness for service. Implements, complete and serviceable. Company drilled at artillery and infantry, but is not efficient with the guns.

Battery Martin Scott, Colonel Gibson commanding.—Garrison, 4 enlisted men. Armament, two 12-pounder mountain howitzers, two 6-pounder James (rifled). Magazines, one; serviceable. Ammunition, supply sufficient; serviceable. Garrison is insufficient.

The garrisons of the works throughout the line have been exercised at artillery practice, and the results of the firing show a commendable degree of skill and proficiency. The magazines are furnished with the necessary materials for replenishing the ammunition, except that which is more readily obtained from the arsenal. The facilities for supplying the magazines from the arsenal are all that is necessary.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. HOWE,
Brigadier-General, Inspector of Artillery.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
May 20, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General Barnard for remarks.
By order of Major-General Halleck:

J. C. KELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CHIEF ENGINEER OF DEFENSES,
Washington, May 21, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

General Howe's suggestions and remarks are excellent and should be carried out both as regards the disposition of troops and outposts and the maintenance of the works. The liability to surprise has long been appreciated by the engineers, who have, as far as possible, been engaged in providing flanking arrangements to such as were most important and exposed. It has long been the intention to repair Fort Runyon, but pressure of work elsewhere has prevented. I do not concur in the importance of Fort Greble at present. It is particularly liable to surprise, can with difficulty be flanked, and while Fort Carroll is held its site cannot be occupied by the enemy. Fort Carroll is being strengthened and flanked, as also Forts Stanton and Meigs. It was to concentrate the garrisons and diminish the danger of surprises that I recommended the suppression of Forts Davis, Du Pont, Wagner, Ricketts, and Greble. The Ordnance Department will furnish the complete armament of Fort Foote and Battery Rodgers as soon as it is able. I do not concur in the opinion that these batteries are too high; indeed, I consider that the latter is too low.

J. G. BARNARD,
Brigadier-General, &c.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
May 21, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Augur, commanding department, for his consideration.

By order of Major-General Halleck:

J. C. KELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON, 22D ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Major-General Halleck, chief of staff.

Most of General Howe's suggestions are theoretically correct, but with the present force at command here are impracticable. It is believed that everything is being done that can be to insure an efficient state of this command.

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 18, 1864—7 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Bermuda Hundred, Va.:

Until receiving your dispatch of yesterday the idea of commissions in the volunteers expiring at the end of the three years had not occurred to me. I think no trouble will come of it, and at all

events I shall take care of it so far as in me lies. As to the major-generalships in the Regular Army, I think I shall not dispose of another; at least until the combined operations now in progress, under direction of General Grant, and within which yourself and command are included, shall be terminated. Meanwhile, on behalf of yourself, officers, and men, please accept my hearty thanks for what you and they have so far done.

A. LINCOLN.

[MAY 18, 1864.—For Butler to Stanton, reporting Kautz's return to City Point, &c., see p. 12.]

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 18, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 7.15 a. m. 19th.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have opposite us a larger force than we have, after keeping open our communications on the river. General Sheridan has left us with his force, via Jones' Bridge, across the Chickahominy, and New Kent Court-House, to join General Grant. Can we not have re-enforcements? We can hold on as we are if they cannot be spared.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.
Major-General.

MAY 18, 1864.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE:

Can you not put your guns on the right of our line, just this side of Howlett's house, so as to get a fire on the enemy in case of an advance?

B. F. BUTLER.
Major-General, Commanding.

FIRST DIVISION SIGNAL STATION,
May 18, 1864—4 p. m.

General BUTLER:

The enemy are working on intrenchments near Howlett's house, without our gun-boats disabling their men. They will mount guns to-night.

S. P. LEE.

MAY 18, 1864.
(Received 5.35 p. m.)

Generals BUTLER and GILLMORE:

Cannot the enemy be prevented from mounting guns at Howlett's to-night by a land attack?

LEE,
Admiral.

MAY 18, 1864.
(Received 5.35 p. m.)

Generals BUTLER and GILLMORE:

The naval pickets were driven in at Lower Dutch Gap, and the rebel artillery is getting in position there.

LEE,
Admiral.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 18, 1864.

General GILLMORE:

What is the cause of the firing on the right?

BENJ. F. BUTLER.
Major-General, Commanding.

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 18, 1864—1.20 p. m. (Received 1.35 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

I have just heard from the force sent out toward pike. I presume the firing we hear is from them. They encountered the enemy's strong pickets before they got much beyond Ware Bottom Church. I directed them to develop strength of enemy.

Q. A. GILLMORE.
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 18, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General BUTLER:

I sent a cavalry force around to Walthall Junction with orders to try and get on the turnpike if possible, which I have not heard from yet.

Q. A. GILLMORE.
Major-General.

GUN-BOAT SIGNAL STATION,
James River, May 18, 1864—1.15 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

I am firing on the house and barn. They are covered from the gun-boat fire and it will take land artillery to attack them.

LEE,
Admiral.

MAY 18, 1864—3 p. m.

General Gillmore will take the most energetic measures to have the two points of wood, nearly opposite the redoubts on the hill, slashed so as to leave a clear space of at least 750 yards.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I gave the orders to have the slashing extended to the front about two hours ago as directed in your dispatch just received.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
May 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to call your attention to the necessity of cutting down the timber in front of the redoubt on hill, as well as in the ravine on your right. This should be done immediately, while we hold the woods. I would also call your attention to the fact that the detail of Volunteer Engineers did not report until late this morning. Colonel Serrell was informed by me yesterday of the necessity of detailing some of his men.

With much respect, I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

F. U. FARQUHAR,
Captain, U. S. Engineers.

MAY 18, 1864—3.30 [p. m.].

Major-General BUTLER:

The force sent out by me found the enemy in considerable strength from Dr. Howlett's house and Ware Bottom Church down to and beyond Widow Clay's house. All the roads leading from the pike are covered by infantry. Their left seems to rest toward Port Walthall Junction. He is in force on all the roads, and is cutting timber near Widow Clay's, either to obstruct roads or with a view to offensive movements. A strong force will be necessary to drive him back. I have withdrawn my force until further orders, as it was too small to effect the purpose. My force attacked them twice, but was unable to dislodge them. I sent a cavalry force around to Port Walthall Junction, with orders to get on the turnpike, which I have not heard from yet.

Yours, &c.,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, May 18, 1864. (Received 4.30 p. m.)

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will order the cavalry which reported to you this morning to return to the cavalry camp.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

General Terry will at once send 50 of his best sharpshooters to the bluff opposite Dutch Gap, to keep down the artillery fire there, as reported by Admiral Lee. General Terry will consult with the admiral upon the matter.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 18, 1864.

General GILLMORE:

I am at my headquarters.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 18, 1864—6.25 p. m. (Received 6.50 p. m.)

Major-General GILLMORE:

Send down teams from your light batteries to bring from landing two 20-pounder Parrotts to put in position near Curtis' house, to shell batteries at Lower Dutch Gap and also at Howlett's. Admiral Lee telegraphs that batteries are being put up at both places. Get guns up and in position to-night. Send also for ammunition for these guns. Inform Colonel Abbot to be prepared to mount guns.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—7 p. m.

General BUTLER:

GENERAL: Dispatch received. The teams are on the way to the landing for two 20-pounder Parrott guns. To whom shall the officer in command apply for them, and where can the necessary ammunition be procured?

In the absence of Major-General Gillmore, who is at the front.

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut.-Col. and Chief of Arty., Tenth Army Corps.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 18, 1864—6.30 p. m. (Received 6.50 p. m.)

General GILLMORE:

Take measures to effectually prevent a surprise to-night or in the fog in the morning.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to General Smith.)

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 18, 1864—7.15 p. m. (Received 7.40 p. m.)

Colonel JACKSON, *Chief of Artillery:*

There are no 30-pounder guns at Bermuda Landing. Detain your teams.

By command of Major-General Butler:

HOWARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Inspector of Artillery.

MAY 18, 1864.
(Received 12.40 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE, *Comdg. Tenth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: Things have become quiet along the front. I have 2 prisoners. General Butler is here examining them. I will send them to you as soon as he is through with them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 18, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY, *Comdg. First Division:*

It is all important that the picket-line should be held firmly until the slashing in its rear is completed. Colonel Serrell has general charge of the work. If he should ask for more details of men you will furnish them.

By order of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 18, 1864—6.35 p. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

Return with your command to camp and resume your present position at 3 a. m. to-morrow, the men taking their breakfast with them.

By order of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 18, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the fact that the picket-line of my command has been reestablished on the original ground, occupied this morning, and that the firing on the part of the enemy has almost entirely ceased.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 18, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

It appears impossible to get teams for ammunition. Tenth Corps reports 169 wagons in their corps. There are 400 in department. Have you not more than you need to get along with? Certainly you have much larger number in proportion than Tenth Corps. Captain Mordecai wants twenty more very much.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General BROOKS,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that a strong picket reserve be stationed at each point along your front which may be at all open to the approach of the enemy. You will also please see that a proper connection is made with General Ames' pickets, so that there may be no weak point left unguarded along our front.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that a strong picket reserve be stationed at each point along your front which is at all open to the enemy's approach and to have a heavy picket along the flat near the mouth of the creek, which picket may be diminished in the daytime.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 18, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: The pickets ordered this a. m. proceeded down the Port Walthall Junction road to the left of the work on Foster's plantation, from where a patrol was sent out, and found the enemy's line of skirmishers at the corner of the woods near where the road forks. Consequently, it is impossible to patrol to the open country through the woods. A line of battle was observed in that direction this a. m. The bearer commanded the patrol and can give fuller details.

C. S. MASTEN,
Captain First Mounted Rifles, Commanding Company.

MAY 18, 18[illegible]

[illegible] HINES

[illegible]

DUNCAN

MAY 18, 18[illegible]—[illegible]

[illegible]

HINES

MAY 18, 18[illegible]

[illegible] HINES

[illegible]

DUNCAN

MAY 18, 18[illegible]

[illegible] HINES

[illegible]

WHITE

MAY 18, 18[illegible]—[illegible]

[illegible]

HINES

MAY 18, 18[illegible]

[illegible] HINES

[illegible]

DUNCAN

MAY 18, 18[illegible]

[illegible]

HINES

MAY 18...

GENERAL NEWS

MAY ...

GENERAL NEWS

MAY ...

MAY ...

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this morning. Will you inquire about the 150 muskets said to be with First U. S. Colored, so that arrangements may be made to distribute them among the dismounted men. I propose to send those men to Bowers' Hill so as to strengthen the mounted force at Bernard's Mill.

I. VOGDES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

PORTSMOUTH, *May* 18, 1864.

General SHEPLEY,
Commanding:

Major Gates left on a scouting expedition toward Suffolk this morning. I have not yet heard any report from him. I have sent him 100 of the dismounted men to strengthen his position at Bowers' Hill. The only other point threatened at all is Deep Creek. As soon as Major Gates returns I will have a scout in that direction.

I. VOGDES,
Brigadier-General.

PORTSMOUTH, *May* 18, 1864.

General SHEPLEY:

Nothing new in the front. Are there any troops at Fort Monroe that can be spared? I will send you word in order to have the North Carolina Regiment as soon as any advancement to this place.

I. VOGDES,
Brigadier-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 19, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 5.35 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I shall make a flank movement early in the morning, and try to reach Bowling Green and Milford Station. If successful, Port Royal will be more convenient as a depot than Fredericksburg. I wish you would stir up the navy and see if they cannot reach there.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 19, 1864—10 p. m. (Received 1 a. m. 20th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The enemy came out on our right late this afternoon and attacked, but were driven back until some time since dark. Not knowing their exact position, and the danger our trains at Fredericksburg will be in if we move, I shall not make the move designated for tonight until their designs are fully developed. We captured men from three different divisions of the enemy; all from Ewell's corps.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Spotsylvania, May 19, 1864. (Received 2.10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The furloughs of the Second Maryland, Forty-sixth New York, and Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Veterans are now out. Please order them to join the Ninth Corps.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 19, 1864—10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Spotsylvania Court-House:

General Hunter placed in command of the Department of West Virginia. The navy will work up the Rappahannock even to Fredericksburg if you protect the south bank from guerrillas. The land is so high they can fire down upon the decks without danger to themselves. More troops will be sent to Fredericksburg to-morrow. I shall continue to send there all I can raise until otherwise ordered. The Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry arrived to-night fully mounted. Shall I send them forward as cavalry, or arm them as infantry, and give their horses to veterans of Army of the Potomac? They are raw recruits and of little use as cavalry.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, communicating the instructions of the Secretary of War with regard to procuring animals and subsistence for the troops from the territory through which military operations are conducted. From the accompanying extract from a report* recently received from Major-General Sheridan, commanding the cavalry expedition recently sent to the James River, it will be seen that the country between that river and this place is pretty nearly destitute of supplies of the character indicated.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

A deserter who came into our line of the Fifth Corps last night from the Fourteenth Tennessee, Archer's brigade, Heth's division, says he thinks Anderson is on Heth's right and Wilcox on his left. His brigade lost very heavy. Rations issued night before last for three days, the first time this has been done since campaign began.

* See Sheridan to Meade, May 14, p. 765.

Soldiers generally understood there was to be a move of their whole army, which was stopped by some movement of ours. He is a good fellow, but a late conscript, and knows very little.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: We have some 55 to 60 prisoners from Rodes' and Early's divisions, of Ewell's corps. They represent the whole of these two divisions, and say they were marched at about 3 to 4 o'clock this p. m. with great rapidity from that part of their line which lies in the rear of the Angle where the Second Corps charged on Thursday; that they went about 4 or 5 miles before the skirmish began. Some of them think that it was supposed we had left. They were marched right through the woods, and don't know exactly where they were taken, but are mainly sent in by the heavy artillery, Colonel Kitching's, I think.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The prisoner from General Warren is in; is from Twenty-second North Carolina, Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division. He says that an hour before sunset the whole of A. P. Hill's corps was ordered forward in front of the Court-House, and came as far as our line of works on the hill the other side of the stream; that he knows the whole corps came, because Wilcox's division was the last; that he was thrown out in front of the skirmish line, and so captured.

Respectfully.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
May 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following report has just been read by the signal officer at Anderson's house from the rebel station at Gurney's Station:

General L.:

All quiet. Our pickets are re-established. Do you want me to return to you, or shall I remain here?

TURNER,
Lieutenant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
May 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the signal officer at the Anderson house has this morning discovered a rebel signal station to the right of and near Guiney's Station, working in the opposite direction from us. The following messages were read by him:

Enemy fired on our pickets near the railroad.
(No signature or address.)

General L.:

One squadron came within a mile of the depot this a. m., but returned. No infantry this side of the Telegraph road.

S.,
Captain.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The within messages were intercepted at a signal station located on Catlett's farm, near Guiney's Station.

B. F. FISHER,
Captain.

[Inclosures.]

General L.:

Steamers are en route for Fredericksburg.

L.

MAY 21, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General LEE:

Nothing passing Guiney's now. Wagon train took pole road in direction of Sycamore. Captain Robinson heard from; infantry and cavalry passing road to Bowling Green, some on this side of river.

B.,
Colonel.

MAY 19, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

In your note of the 13th instant, reporting the number of colors captured by your command during the recent battles, you report ten as in possession of Major-General Birney, or promised by him; also that many others are in possession of individuals. With respect to the latter, the commanding general desires that you will cause every effort to be made to have the colors delivered to the proper authority. They are public property, and cannot rightfully be retained by individuals. You are requested to send in all the flags as soon as practicable, so that they can be forwarded to the War Department.

Very respectfully,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

An order will at once be issued assigning Tyler's division to your command. The division is, however, directed to remain near these headquarters until further orders. The chief quartermaster states that he has given the necessary instructions with regard to the transportation for this division, and that the means of transportation available from consolidation of the Third and Fourth Divisions of your corps will be sufficient for this purpose.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you move with your corps to-morrow at 2 a. m. to Bowling Green and Milford Station, via Guiney's Station, and take position on the right bank of the Mattapony, if practicable. Should you encounter the enemy you will attack him vigorously, and report immediately to these headquarters, which you will keep advised of your progress from time to time. Brigadier-General Torbert, with a cavalry force and a battery of horse artillery, is ordered to report to you for duty. An engineer officer and guides will be sent to you. Canvas pontoons will likewise be put at your disposal.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Colonel Morgan has been as far as Guiney's Station, where the first cavalry pickets of the enemy were seen. They have, however, a signal station on the south side of the Ny, from which they can detect the march of my column within 3 miles of Massaponax, and as early as five hours before I could reach Milford. Under the circumstances it might be well for me to march earlier, so that I could get beyond Guiney's and well toward Bowling Green by daylight.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—4.50 [p. m.].

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Army Corps:

Your dispatch is received. The major-general commanding directs me to say: Start at such hour as you deem best.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864. (Received 5.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The commanding general directs that you hold your command in readiness to move up here at a moment's notice. There appears to be a movement of the enemy on our right.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864. (Received 5.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Move up a division in double-quick. The enemy have attacked us in force at the Harris house. The rest of your corps to follow.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The main road from Spotsylvania Court-House to Fredericksburg is not considered safe. All messengers should be sent by way of Massaponax Church.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Warren and Wright.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864. (Received 7.45 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Please order the officer in charge of canvas bridge train to report to me.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 132. } *May* 19, 1864.

1. The Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, Colonel Haskell, is relieved from further duty in General Tyler's division, and assigned to the Second Division of the corps. It will report accordingly.

2. The quartermaster of the corps is authorized to make such transfers of the transportation of the several divisions as may be necessary to provide for General Tyler's division.

3. The brigade and division flags of the late Fourth Division of the corps will be turned over to the chief quartermaster of the corps for issue to the division of General Tyler.

* * * * * * *

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 19, 1864—5.30 p. m.

The command will be put under arms instantly. General Birney's division has moved on the double-quick to the Harris house. General Barlow will move at once to the right after General Birney. General Gibbon will follow General Barlow.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 19, 1864—9.10 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: There has been no picket-firing on my line this afternoon. The firing heard was away to my left, and apparently about 1½ miles down the river.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Vols., Comdg. Division.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

A field-officer's court-martial will be convened at once in each regiment of this command for the trial of skulks and stragglers. Summary punishment should at once be inflicted on all such men. It is considered that if the full extent of punishment of a field-officer's court is inflicted, and this done at once, that it will have a beneficial effect. Sentence should be executed in presence of the command to which the person belongs. There are, in addition to loss of month's pay, punishments sanctioned by usage, such as tying up, placarding, riding wooden horses, &c., that come within the authority of a field-officer's court, that would go far toward putting a stop to these crimes.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. BIRNEY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 19, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have just sent up a rebel deserter, a conscript from East Tennessee, who says they are on very short rations and that many of the conscripts have deserted. He says our cannon killed and wounded a good many of them yesterday. He is from Hill's corps.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that a detachment of 500 cavalry is posted on our right flank, which the commander of the brigade of infantry on this side of the Ny should communicate with. The pickets of the infantry should be well thrown out and well extended around the right. Tyler's division of infantry is massed in the vicinity of these headquarters, and is held ready for any service required of it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General WARREN:

I have directed Major Forsyth, commanding 450 cavalry, to report to you to be posted to cover the right flank and rear of the infantry on this side of the river.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

Has the officer commanding the detachment of cavalry on the right reported to you, or to any officer of your command? Does any one in your command know where his headquarters are?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that when any groups of the enemy, although small, collect together within range some artillery should open upon them. Some such groups have been noticed on the open ground this morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 19, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I believe no one knows here who is in charge of the cavalry picket line, or where he is to be found. My line laps over his a little.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 19, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy followed up General Burnside's withdrawal very close this morning, and for some time two battle-flags have been seen in Burnside's line about a mile off. Our pickets are out about 500 yards, and our sharpshooters ready for any one who shows himself.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch received. I understand that Colonel Kitching is at the Harris house with his brigade. Is that so?

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864—11.25 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Yes; Colonel Kitching is at the Harris house. His picket-line extends well out from the river toward the cavalry.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My men have a little skirmishing north of the Ny River this morning. I have Colonel Kitching's command with a battery to hold in that direction, and can't well spare any more and maintain my front securely, so that if the enemy makes strong demonstrations in that direction General Tyler's command should be in readiness to meet it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 19, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: As far as I can discover there is nothing whatever in Colonel Kitching's front. I can see troops to the southwest 2 miles, filing in the direction of the Court-House; whether these are our own troops or not, I cannot tell.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. B. COPE,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My infantry picket-line is well posted and connecting with the cavalry north of Ny River.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 19, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy make no effort to press our picket-line on the right, and his troops have been seen occasionally moving from that position toward our left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864—5.05 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS

My quartermaster has just asked me in case of a movement what wagons we would want, which, of course, depends upon the nature of the movement. I have with me here only about 40 rounds per man in wagons; transportation for five days' forage, a wagon for subsistence to officers in each brigade, and a wagon and a spring wagon for each headquarter of a brigade and division.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Are you sending any troops across to meet the attack at the Harris house? Tyler has nothing but raw troops, and is pressed back. Send some troops across at once.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps

The musketry firing is very close to us. The commanding general directs that you send some troops this way at once.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have no report yet, but I hear considerable musketry over on my right.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that Hancock is ordered up here also. Wright will be ordered to send you support, should you need it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *May* 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have sent the Maryland Brigade to support Colonel Kitching, and called in Crawford's division to send to you. I think it is an effort of the cavalry to get on to the Fredericksburg road.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch received. The attack is by infantry and in some force. The commanding-general desires you to hurry Crawford forward as fast as possible. Can you send a battery or two at once?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864. (Received 5.55 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

I am using every haste to get troops to help. I have reduced my front down to a single line of battle—that is my artillery firing. Can't you call on General Wright for help if more is wanted? I am sending a division to the right, and as soon as I can a brigade to you.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

We don't want the brigade here. Let whatever troops you can spare move to the vicinity of the Harris house. Wright is ordered to support you should you require support.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

General WARREN:

In case you need assistance where do you wish it sent? I can send you Russell's division from the right of my lines.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT:

I should want you to close in toward my left, closing the gap I should make in withdrawing my troops toward the right. I believe we have now sent enough troops to drive back the enemy on our right, especially if General Hancock is sending troops. Will you have General Russell look out for my left? I have two batteries there in position that sweep a good deal of my front.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

WRIGHT'S, *May* 19, 1864.

General WARREN:

General Russell will command the troops of this corps moving to the right and will send a staff officer to report to you.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding Sixth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

General WARREN:

I will send the whole of Russell's division and more if you want. Russell is now moving to fill up the gap left by Crawford.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Not knowing how events might go I sent Crawford's division across the river toward the Harris house to pass near your headquarters; it was as direct as any way. I have the Maryland Brigade already there and Ayres on the way, but it is best not to weaken here too much till we can tell what force has attacked Kitching. I think if General Hancock sends a division that, with that and Crawford, these will be ample.

G. K. WARREN,
Major General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general directs that General Crawford attack the enemy as soon as he finds where and how he is posted. General Tyler is similarly instructed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General.

WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864—7.10 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I had two engineer companies come down the Fredericksburg road during the firing. The musketry has ceased, and I shall soon have a report from Colonel Bankhead and Major Roebling, who have gone to the place. On my right on this side of the river the skirmishers pressed my line a little, and the cannon you hear is being fired at them.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 19, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

It has all quieted down with the repulse of the enemy. I have ordered a strong line of skirmishers to push out.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

You will have to leave Crawford to support Kitching to-night, as Tyler's division must be withdrawn to move with Hancock. Give directions to Crawford to make his dispositions as soon as possible to permit of Tyler's withdrawal. I will allow Wright to send troops to this point to sustain Crawford in case of a renewal to-morrow of to-day's proceedings.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

General CRAWFORD:

I forward you this for your guidance. Take command of all the troops of this corps in your vicinity; they are Colonel Kitching's command, the Maryland Brigade, and two batteries. Let the battery horses have all the rest you can to-night. A negro has just come into our lines; came from Gordon's brigade, which he says are all that went over there this afternoon. Send a report back.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864—8 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A negro has just come into our lines who says it was Gordon's brigade that moved to our right. He says most of their army has moved the other way—the direction they saw our wagons going. I have sent him up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Major Roebling has just returned, and reports that the attack was made by Rodes' and Johnson's divisions, Ewell's corps; that Tyler's command and Kitching's forced them back, and that our loss was about 300 killed and perhaps 1,500 wounded. They have also forced back my skirmishers to the rifle-pits on this side of the river on my right. Prisoners were taken who report that Breckinridge's command has arrived. I hasten to report this without waiting further information as it may modify your plans.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Hancock will hold on to-night till relieved by General Russell with 5,000 men of the Sixth Corps and two batteries. I wish you to superintend the posting of this force, together with Crawford and Kitching, to prevent to-morrow any advance of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864—9.05 p. m.

General MEADE:

Will General Tyler be relieved?

G. K. WARREN.

WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Major Roebling reports that there will be great difficulty in getting Birney's division out of the position they now are so as to have them well together and efficient in any other part of our line early to-morrow morning. It seems to me that information from all sources confirms the opinion that we have Hill and Ewell opposite and to the right of me. We ought to drive them back in the morning with a

heavy force, or they will drive in our right and get all our trains at Fredericksburg. The enemy's right, I believe, is intrenched all the way to the Po.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Cutler, on my right flank, has just sent in a prisoner from Scales' brigade. He says Hill's corps has moved north from the Court-House across the intrenchments occupied by General Burnside, so that his whole force lies on my right flank. He says, too, that there is another corps on the right of Hill's.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General WARREN:

Your telegram in reference to Hill's corps received. You say there is another corps on Hill's right. Do you mean Hill's right proper, or his right as we look at him? There seems to be no doubt that Ewell has crossed the Ny or was across this afternoon.

GEO. G. MEADE.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I mean on Hill's own right southward. The man had that impression, but could not say positively. I have sent him up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864—10 p. m.

General MEADE:

General Crawford reports it as his belief from information received from prisoners that Ewell's whole corps crossed the Ny River. One prisoner says he understood their movement was to get at our supplies, as they were nearly starved out. The last issue they had for two days would not more than make a meal for a hungry man. I send you these reports, not that they are necessarily true, but in connection with those you receive from other sources may assist in getting at the truth.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Hancock's people will remain to-night in their present position to await the developments of the morning. Wright's 5,000 will also be moved near here. I have no doubt the movement of Hill was to support Ewell and extricate him from the scrape he ought to have gotten into.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Colonel Bankhead has just returned from the scene of the operation this evening. He confirms Major Roebling's statement. The enemy are cutting trees considerably either for a roadway or an abatis. General Crawford has command of three brigades of mine and of Colonel Kitching's brigade. They are on the left, General Tyler's men are in the center, General Birney toward the right. Does your order continue in force, now that these troops remain, for me to superintend the posting of them? I believe all is being done now that can be to-night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Hancock is ordered to attack Ewell at daylight in the morning. You will direct Crawford and Kitching to attack at the same time on Birney's left.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

FIFTH CORPS, *May* 19, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I believe from the reports recently received that our losses this evening are much less than at first reported. Perhaps in all not exceeding 500 killed and wounded.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General

HEADQUARTERS, *May* 19, 1864—8.45 p. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: A prisoner just taken says that he belongs to Daniel's brigade, of Rodes' division, Ewell's corps. He says that the whole corps crossed the river this morning. There is no doubt but that the enemy is in force.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

The artillery regiments are not at all reliable. The Second New York will not stand.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
Harris' House, May 19, 1864.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: Yours received. It has taken some time to ascertain the enemy's position. It appears from what the prisoners state that one division of Ewell's corps is here, having crossed the river. Birney is on the right. The relief of Tyler will throw Kitching's troops in his place. I am supporting and covering our left. The enemy are working around our right. He has commenced cutting a road through to the Spotsylvania road. The artillery troops are out of ammunition, having fired principally at nothing. I am pushing out on the left to ascertain the whereabouts of the enemy on that flank. Will you send to the Harris house some caliber .58 for the Artillery Brigade. I assumed command when I arrived on the ground, and have withdrawn the battery to the hill. The enemy, I think, are making for the main road. I will, without doubt, renew the attack to-morrow. Some additional troops should be sent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS.
May 19, 1864.

Captain MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: My troops were in position and my picket-line established at daylight. My picket officer reports that he can find no pickets from Colonel Kitching on the north side of the Ny.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General CUTLER,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: General Warren thinks your picket-line may be farther to the front than Colonel Kitching's, and if so your picket-line should connect with his. I will notify Colonel Kitching of this, so that he can see it attended to.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

We have found the trouble and will soon have it right.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

NEAR FREDERICKSBURG, VA., *May 19, 1864.*

Capt. A. S. MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward you, in charge of Major Ford, of the Engineers, 1 officer and 100 enlisted men, comprising

bands, drum corps, and stragglers, belonging to the Fifth Corps, found with the main wagon train. There are many more reported to be around in the woods. I will collect all that I can and return to your headquarters this evening.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. OSBORN,
Lieut. Col., Div. Insp., Fourth Div., Fifth Army Corps.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

Captain MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: My musicians have been returned from hospital under the orders of last evening; a portion of them, and especially the First Brigade band, were sent there by my orders, and I am informed by the surgeon in charge have been very faithful. I beg to ask if these men cannot be detailed for that duty in place of armed men, and if they neglect their duty be sent into the ranks with muskets.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE HEAVY ARTILLERY,
May 19, 1864—9 a. m.

[Captain MARVIN:]

CAPTAIN: Your communication just received. I have had some difficulty in forming my line this morning, owing to the fact that my officers and men are entirely ignorant of picket duty. I believe the line to be connected with General Cutler now. Will report as soon as I learn that it is all right.

J. HOWARD KITCHING,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE HEAVY ARTILLERY,
May 19, 1864.

General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that as yet no demonstration has been made in my immediate front other than throwing out a line of skirmishers. The enemy, however, can be plainly seen crossing a point in the woods held by our troops yesterday, northwest of General Cutler's present right. They were crossing to this side of the works and are apparently going in the direction of our left. The cavalry with me are all new and are not at all useful as scouts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HOWARD KITCHING,
Colonel Sixth New York Artillery, Commanding.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, FIFTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: As far as I can discover, there is no force of the enemy this side of the river. They have ceased to cross the works as mentioned in my last. I am all right and simply reported the movement of the enemy for the information of your headquarters.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. HOWARD KITCHING.
Colonel Sixth New York Artillery, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY BRIGADE,
May 19, 1864.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: Our pickets are being driven in on the right. Do not know the force, but it must be quite large as our picket was strong.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. HOWARD KITCHING.
Colonel Sixth New York Artillery, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864—7.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My line is established connecting with General Warren's left, and running southerly at the start, bends gradually in a southwest direction. One division is on the right of the Anderson Mill road and two on the left. The skirmish line on the right is hard up against the enemy. The left I am moving forward, and shall throw the left of my main line forward if practicable. The enemy's line in front of my left is reported to be on a thickly wooded crest less than half a mile distant. Movements have been slow in consequence of the difficult nature of the country, which is densely wooded.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

What is the length of the line occupied by your corps, and how much of your force is in line, and how much in reserve? I ask because, from a sketch of the engineers, it does not appear that you occupy ground proportionate to your strength.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff*:

My command has a front of nearly 1 mile; is in two lines of battle, with part of a third line in reserve.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My position is now entirely secure without the troops in the third line. I can, therefore, extend either to the right or left if desirable.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

The enemy have attacked in some force on the right, about the Harris house. Warren has sent some part of his command to this side the Ny to meet the attack. You will support him should he need support, as he has but a single line of battle.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

SIXTH ARMY CORPS, *May* 19, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff*:

Dispatch received. I will hold Russell's division in readiness to support Warren. Is it necessary to move him from his present position before being called on to send him across to Warren? He is in position on my right in rifle-pits.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864.

General WRIGHT:

It is not necessary to move Russell until Warren calls on you for support.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Should guards be sent with trains to and from Fredericksburg and between Fredericksburg and Belle Plain? I have been told that both roads are insecure for unguarded wagons.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

You must send as large a force as you can spare from the defense of your line to cover our right and rear, which have been threatened this afternoon. Let me know what force and the commanding officer, and let them start so as to be in the vicinity of the Harris house by daylight to-morrow morning.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 19, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

I will send General Russell with his division, and Wheaton's brigade, of the Second Division, in all nearly 5,000 men, to the right, and will still hold my present front with one line and a portion of a second.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

Send Russell and Wheaton at once to relieve General Hancock's people, now near the deserted house. Ewell's corps has been driven back beyond this point, but still shows some front. Send a couple of batteries with Russell.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864—9.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

It is reported that thirty wagons belonging to Third Division, Sixth Corps, were captured on the main road to Fredericksburg today, and recaptured by the Corcoran Legion, Second Corps, with the loss of the drivers only.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT:

General Meade has directed me to superintend posting the troops to hold our right to-morrow. Will you please have an officer of the command you send report to me on his way to where Birney's troops are.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

This division will be held in readiness to move, in case it should be called upon, to support the Fifth Corps.

By command of Brigadier-General Russell:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 19, 1864—9.45 p. m.

This division will be held in readiness to move at once. Order of march: Fourth Brigade, First Brigade, Third Brigade, Second Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Russell:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MYERS' HOUSE, *May* 19, 1864—5.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The head of the column reached here some time ago, but cannot move farther until General Wright's troops get out of the way. The whole corps is now massed here.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

The construction party is at the Myers house, prepared to extend the telegraph line to your headquarters. Please cause the party to be informed where you wish to have your office.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: The result of the reconnaissance and observations made this morning is as follows: At a point 1¼ miles due south from the Myers house is a house owned by Quesenberry. Taking that as a starting point and going a half a mile due south you strike the Po River. Drawing a line southwest from Spotsylvania Court-House you strike the Po again; then drawing a line from the Quesenberry house, a little south of west 1 mile, you strike the Po again, and at that point the enemy's intrenchments seem to end and to run from that point directly to Spotsylvania Court-House. All accounts agree that there are no intrenchments south of the Po. At a point 2 miles southeast of Smith's Mill the Po and Ny unite.

The four points on the Po given in this dispatch will give the general direction of that river. From all the information given by our pickets left behind this morning the enemy evacuated their works in our front before we left this morning.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 19, 1864. (Received 4.15 p. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Can you not occupy the Quesenberry house with a brigade? It will be a good point from which to observe the movements of the enemy.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I had one brigade at the Quesenberry house, but withdrew it. Will have it replaced at once.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 19, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Ninth Army Corps:*

After occupying the Quesenberry house, push pickets out to the Po River, if you can, and drive in the rebel pickets until you find the end or right of the enemy's main line. You want to get, if possible, where their movements can be observed, and if they move away, we want to follow close upon them. Push pickets also good distances on the roads east and southeast from you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864—5.55 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

What was the result of the attack?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The firing has ceased. We have no report yet of the result. They attacked with strength enough to drive in the force there until it was re-enforced. I will let you know as soon as we learn what has taken place.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Please inform me of the position occupied by General Hancock to-day, that I may arrange our flankers and pickets accordingly.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

General Meade is with General Grant. General Hancock is massed at the Anderson Mill bridge.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

MAY 19, 1864—9.15 p. m.
(Received 9.25 p. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Ninth Corps:*

What news with you this evening? The enemy crossed the Ny. to our right, this evening, in considerable force. We having taken prisoners from three different divisions. Quite a sharp engagement has taken place, in which we have lost probably 1,500 men, killed and wounded.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The attack on our right proved to be Ewell's corps, which remains on this side the Ny.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General CRITTENDEN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: General Grant directs that the Quesenberry house be occupied as long as possible by a brigade, and that our pickets be extended, if possible, to the Po River. You will please detail General Ledlie's brigade for this work, and replace it in the advance line by a portion of your reserve. Give instructions to be very careful to well connect with our line of pickets and our line of works. It is more than likely it will be withdrawn early this evening, and the house held by a small force during the night.

Very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864—5.30 p. m.

General WILCOX.

Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: One of General Grant's officers reported to me that there is a gap between your picket-line and General Wright's, or between yours and General Crittenden's. I think he must be mistaken, but choose to report it to you, in order that you may determine positively.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO.

Comdg. Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

The enemy have crossed the Ny, to the right of our lines, in considerable force, and may possibly detach a force to move on Fredericksburg. Keep your cavalry pickets well out on the plank road, and all other roads leading south and west of you. If you find the enemy moving infantry and artillery toward you, report it promptly. In that case, take up strong positions and detain him all you can, turning all your trains back to Fredericksburg, and whatever falling back you may be forced to do, do in that direction. I do not think the enemy will detach in that direction, but give you this warning in time, in case they should. Require all trains coming to the front, to come by the Massaponax Church road.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

MAY 19, 1864.

COMDG. OFFICER BATTN. HEAVY ARTY., JUNCTION OF FREDERICKSBURG AND SPOTSYLVANIA AND TELEGRAPH ROADS:

The major-general commanding directs that you station a guard at the junction of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Court-House and Telegraph roads, with instructions to prevent any trains or wagons coming to the army from going farther than that point on the main road to Spotsylvania, directing them to take the road leading to Massaponax Church. Similar instructions will be communicated by the guards to all troops, individual officers, and messengers coming to the army.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Baltimore Store, May 19, 1864.

Major-General MEADE.

Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I left Haxall's on the 17th in the evening, and arrived here last night, 18th. I communicated to you, via Washington, outlines of

our operations until we arrived at Haxall's. I find it impossible to cross the Pamunkey; in fact, all the streams are much swollen and it will take a day or two for them to run down. I will remain here until I can find out the position of your army. I find it exceedingly difficult to shape my movements on account of not knowing where you are. I will commence demonstrating on the railroads, and destroy them if possible. I have sent for supplies to be shipped to the White House; also for pontoons to cross the Pamunkey. The enemy have infantry at Mechanicsville, and are watching me closely. They were making arrangements with their infantry to catch me at Haxall's. After the repulse of our troops at Drewry's Bluff they sent troops to Bottom's Bridge to head me off. In the cavalry engagement at Yellow Tavern, Major-General Stuart was killed, and at Meadow Bridge next day, General Gordon, commanding brigade in Hampton's division, was severely wounded. The enemy's cavalry was very badly whipped.

Very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 19, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. T. A. TORBERT:

The major-general commanding directs that you report immediately to Major-General Hancock for duty, to accompany his corps to-morrow. General Hancock is at Anderson's Mill. He will move with his corps to-morrow morning at 2 o'clock to Milford Station, via Guiney's Station and Bowling Green, and the cavalry and horse artillery under your command will form part of his force.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAV. DETACHMENT, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

I inclose a note from Major Forsyth, commanding cavalry on the right. The enemy have driven the pickets (I had about 8 men) on the other side of the Ny River to this side.

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

[Inclosure.]

MAY 19, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General TORBERT,
Commanding Cavalry Detachment:

GENERAL: The enemy made quite a demonstration toward us about 12.30 p. m. Colonel Kitching immediately formed in line of battle, when they withdrew to their former position. They have

sent a few sharpshooters along the banks of the Ny River. I still think that they are sending all the men they can spare to their right flank. Captain Lee, Third Indiana Cavalry, is now out with a small party endeavoring to find out whether they have any force this side of the Ny River and to our right. Think they have a little cavalry, say about two squadrons altogether. I intend to move most of my force up on the right this evening. Colonel Kitching has advanced his skirmish line to the crest of the hill occupied as army headquarters yesterday, and now desires me to throw my vedettes down to the river.

As the hill commands a fine view of the enemy, and the river banks are exposed to the enemy's sharpshooters, I think the risk entirely too great for the mere prospect of some little advantage, and unless he insists I shall decline doing so, as it would only in all probability needlessly sacrifice some of my men.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. A. FORSYTH,
Major, Commanding Detachment of Cavalry.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that a scout sent out by General Merritt reports a brigade of rebel cavalry encamped somewhere near Old Church, or rather on the road between Cold Harbor and Old Church. The general thinks that you had better send out another regiment to meet the one sent to Piping Tree Ferry and the other crossing of the Pamunkey from your command to-day.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your division at 5 o'clock to-morrow morning to Cold Harbor and there take position. Brigadier-General Wilson will be ordered to follow in your rear and on the same road. He will be ordered to report to you as your support, and will be under your orders. After arriving at Cold Harbor or vicinity, push strong parties well out toward Walnut Grove, engage the attention of the enemy, or attack him, if in your judgment it can be done to advantage. My headquarters will be here; if any change is made you will be notified. Frequent reports from you will be required.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fredericksburg, May 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

GENERAL: In reply to your letter of this date respecting pontoon bridge, I have to say that last evening it was reported to me that another bridge was ready for use in crossing the river. I did not inquire whence the boats for construction were obtained, and I am entirely unable to answer your question as to the disposition of the train you report as being ready to move to the front from Belle Plain. Some other person who is acquainted with the matter must decide.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Belle Plain, May 19, 1864.

Capt. P. P. PITKIN:

General H. W. Benham, commanding this brigade, in accordance with directions from General Meigs, directs me to call on you for the mule teams, harness, and drivers belonging to the pontoon trains which were turned over to you. These teams are required immediately to haul a bridge train to Fredericksburg, and if they cannot be furnished the bridge cannot be sent forward in compliance with General Meigs' order. The boats are now being hauled out on the road by the teams of the brigade. Will you please inform me by bearer how soon they can be furnished?

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

OFFICE DEPOT QUARTERMASTER,
Belle Plain, Va., May 19, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Mr. H. R. Allen, agent for Capt. T. E. Strong, to whose department the mules, harness, drivers, &c., alluded to within, were turned over, and who will deliver them again to Capt. A. Hull, assistant quartermaster, Engineer Brigade.

P. P. PITKIN,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

[Second indorsement.]

I have no drivers, but the teams can be given by taking them from the corral.

H. R. ALLEN,
Agent.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 19, 1864—8 a. m.
(Received 9.50 a. m.)

WAR DEPARTMENT:

A construction corps of 500 men is at work at Aquia Creek on depot, road, &c. They reported squads of guerrillas hovering in their neighborhood yesterday, but they proved on inquiry to be my

own cavalry, who are constantly scouring the country. Three hundred of a guard are at Aquia. Five hundred men, Major Kleckner, One hundred and eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, reported this a. m., and will be sent forward with trains which move at 5 and 10 a. m. and 3 p. m.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 19, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 8.35 p. m.)

WAR DEPARTMENT:

Seven hundred went forward to-day, guarding trains. Colonel Schriver, commanding at Fredericksburg, writes for more men. I send him 250. Eleven hundred infantry go forward to-morrow. Two hundred cavalry arrived this evening.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The Twenty-third and Eighty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers arrived at this post just as we were in receipt of over 7,500 prisoners. It was indispensably necessary that the provost guard, Army of the Potomac, who brought them, should be relieved and sent to the front. The two Pennsylvania regiments (who had been on duty at Johnson's Island over prisoners) were substituted in the emergency. The last of the rebels left here yesterday, and the Twenty-third and Eighty-second have been ordered forward.

By order of Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie:

I am, general, &c.,

R. L. ORR.
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 19, 1864—9 p. m.

Colonel SCHRIVER,
Commanding at Fredericksburg:

You are directed to arrest and send to Washington under guard 60 of the principal male citizens in Fredericksburg and its vicinity, to be held as hostages for the persons captured by Mayor Slaughter and sent to Richmond. You are directed also, upon no pretext, to issue rations to citizens of Fredericksburg or other citizens of Virginia. It is said that without orders you have done so. You will report whether you have done so, when, and to what amount. You will also report what efforts, if any, you have made to arrest Mayor Slaughter and the persons who aided and abetted them in the capture of Union soldiers at Fredericksburg. You will spare no efforts to

arrest them, and send all who aided or participated in that act to Washington in irons. This Department needs assurance that you have not been remiss in so obvious a duty. Acknowledge the receipt of this order, and report promptly your action under it.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FREDERICKSBURG, *May* 19, 1864.
(Received 11.20 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I acknowledge the receipt of your telegram, directing the arrest of 60 of the principal citizens of this city to be held as hostages. It shall have prompt attention. The report that I have issued rations to citizens of Fredericksburg is entirely false; on the contrary I have refused every application made to me. A secret watch has been kept on Mayor Slaughter's house every night, for the purpose of arresting him, should he secretly attempt to enter it. He is reported to be in Richmond, and has not been seen since I have been here in command.

ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON CITY, *May* 19, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Your telegram of 8 p. m. yesterday, asking for reenforcements, reached here this morning and was submitted to the President, and by his direction transmitted to General Grant for his instructions. All the forces of the Government, as you know, are under his orders, and to be disposed of as he may direct. The available troops at Washington have all been forwarded to him. Great interest is felt by the President and this Department in the success of your operations, and by holding the enemy in front of you, Grant is to that extent relieved, and you will contribute greatly to the success of the campaign. Nothing in our power will be spared to support you, and aid to the important results you have already achieved.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Is the 30-pounder Parrott to go on the right at Curtis' house or on General Smith's left?

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

MAY 19, 1864—8.40 p. m.
(Received 9 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

My engineer officer has just returned from the picket-line, where he was detained in consequence of an attack on the line by the

enemy. I deem it practicable to push to the front little by little, but the plan needs some elaboration. I think, however, that an attack upon the enemy in considerable force will have to be made first to regain the ground we want to use. I would like to have Captain Farquhar, as he has doubtless studied the ground.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff.

I have examined the ground spoken of, and am having a sketch prepared and will report shortly.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

The enemy opened a brisk artillery fire upon our advance line about an hour since, but the line has not moved.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Trenches, May 19, 1864—8.50 p. m.

Captain SEALY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: If the advance redoubt on the left is to be worked at to-morrow 200 more men will be required—say from General Ames. This is the one Lieutenant Archer was at work upon to-day. Please answer.

ED. W. SERRELL,
Colonel of Engineers, New York Volunteers.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

General Butler will meet you, with General Smith, on General Ames' line, to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock, to consult in regard to projected work.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff

[Indorsement.]

Colonel SHAFFER:

I will be there at the appointed time.

GILLMORE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 19, 1864—6.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The enemy appears to be shelling the woods in our front. He doubtless heard the chopping last night. Is now making an effort to worry those who may now be in the same vicinity. An occasional shot comes over in this vicinity. Our picket-line is undisturbed. I do not think their actions indicate an immediate attempt to advance upon us.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. AMES.
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 19, 1864—6.40 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: My division officer of the day reports that the pickets last night heard "pounding," and suggests the idea that the enemy was putting up barricades. My picket-line is very strong; the rails covered with earth make it a formidable rifle-pit. While it is held I would recommend that an abatis be put in front of the batteries and of that part of my line where there is no slashing. I also think it advisable to hasten the slashing in front of my left.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. AMES.
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 19, 1864.

Generals SMITH and WEITZEL:

Please come to these headquarters to consult with Captain Farquhar. He is too unwell to call on you.

B. F. BUTLER.
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 18. HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., May* 19, 1864.

I. Hereafter it is positively forbidden for any staff officer in this command, from general headquarters down, excepting officers of the adjutant-general's department, to publish any orders "By command of." All such orders will be issued from the adjutant-general's department, and will be obeyed promptly. Any failure to comply at once with such orders will be punished to the full extent of military law. Staff officers may say, at the dictation of their commanding officer, "The general commanding directs, &c.," when it is impossible to send orders through the adjutant-general's department.

II. Chiefs of departments at these headquarters, comprising chief quartermaster, chief commissary of subsistence, medical director, provost-marshal, chief artillery, &c., will issue such orders, for the interior regulations of their departments, as may be necessary for the good of the service, but will, in no case, exercise any authority that may conflict with the jurisdiction of division and other commanders, with this exception, that in case of the utmost necessity for immediate action, the medical director of the corps will have power to detach such medical officers from this command as he may deem proper for duty at hospitals. He will as soon as possible notify commanding officers of such detail.

III. This order will be published to the whole command and made known to all its staff officers particularly.

By command of Major-General Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General BROOKS,
Comdg. First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that you will have Colonel Hutton's brigade ready to move at a moment's notice. The men will carry 40 rounds of ammunition and one day's rations. You will report to these headquarters when the brigade is ready to move.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. P. MUHLENBERG,
First Lieut., Fifth U. S. Artillery, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General BROOKS,
Comdg. First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that no move will be made to-night, and that the brigade of your division ordered to be ready to start can cook their meals as usual.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. P. MUHLENBERG,
First Lieut., Fifth U. S. Artillery, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

MAY 19, 1864.
(Received 9.15 a. m.)

General HINKS:

How late a deserter have you from Petersburg or Richmond? Send him to me at once.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 19, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General BUTLER:

Will send a man who left Petersburg last Tuesday.

HINKS,
General.

CITY POINT, *May* 19, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

I find on inspection that from 500 to 1,000 horses are disabled so as to be unfit for service for several weeks, and quite a number, I fear, never will be fit for service. By ordering up the balance of the District of Columbia Cavalry after four or five days I can have about 2,000 good horses ready for the field, and perhaps more. It will be necessary to establish a depot camp at some convenient point for the general to decide, where disabled horses can be recuperated and the dismounted men made available. There are about 500 dismounted men left at Portsmouth, and some horses with the extra camp equipage that I desire to have ordered up. Please issue the necessary orders for transportation and designate the place for the depot camp. This point will be very well if there is no objection in the proposed operations for the future.

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 19, 1864.

General KAUTZ:

I wish you would examine and see if you can't find a suitable place near Bermuda Landing for a camp for broken-down horses and dismounted men. I prefer it, for the reason that the men can be more useful. The orders you ask for have been issued.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Trent's Reach, May 19, 1864—4 p. m.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Two monitors practicing on rebel earth-works at Howlett's. Enemy intrenched before our army lines here. A man from Richmond to-day reports no fighting beyond Richmond. Great scarcity of provisions there.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

CONFEDERATE CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp:

COLONEL: Your letter of yesterday is received. General Field will move to the vicinity of Gordonsville this afternoon or early to-morrow morning. As General Burnside's army is up in our front, there can be but little use in holding any considerable force below Richmond, as there is no force of the enemy that can give us any trouble in that quarter. I hope, therefore, that at least Pickett's division may be sent up to us.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 1, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: Your letter of yesterday is received. We are making every effort to have our troops supplied with any articles, ordnance, &c., that may have been deficient, and hope that we may be fully prepared by to-morrow night for any service.

I remain, sir, very respectfully,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

NEAR GREENVILLE,
Via Rocky Mount, May 1, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

The enemy have evacuated Washington. Dearing, with his cavalry, is after them. Agents should be sent to Hyde County after corn and bacon.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 102. } *Richmond, May* 2, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XXV. The Fifth Regiment North Carolina Cavalry, now on temporary service near this city, will immediately proceed to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty with Brigadier-General Gordon's brigade.

XXVI. The three companies of the Third North Carolina Cavalry, now serving in the Department of North Carolina, will rejoin their regiment now serving in Army of Northern Virginia.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MILFORD, *May* 2, 1864.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: I reported this morning to the major-general commanding for duty by telegraph, and I now write to advise you of my return. The only troops of my division present are the First and Second North Carolina Regiments, and the three legions of General Young's brigade. The effective force here numbers 673 enlisted men. The Fifth North Carolina Regiment has been detained in Richmond, and I have not been advised of the position of General Rosser. I hope that my command will be concentrated as speedily as possible, so that I may be prepared to render some service if my command is ordered to move.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

KINSTON, *May* 2, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

Please state what troops of all arms shall move with General Hoke, and whether they shall march or go by railroad. He will not be here until 1 o'clock to-day, when question of attack shall be determined by him.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[First indorsement.]

General Beauregard was telegraphed to send the troops by rail, and has been informed that by General Hoke's force was meant that which he took with him to Plymouth.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
May 3, 1864.

By command of General Bragg, respectfully returned to Adjutant-General, as information.

The following telegram has been to-day sent to General Beauregard at Kinston, viz:

Your telegram of yesterday to General Cooper is seen. You can send with Hoke any or all the forces in your department as you may think best. The movement requires the greatest possible expedition.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 2, 1864.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Kinston, N. C.:*

Dispatch received. By General Hoke's force was meant that which he took with him to Plymouth. The troops will move by railroad.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

KINSTON, N. C., *May* 2, 1864.
(Received 9 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER:

Have conferred with General Hoke. Expedition will proceed immediately. Forces referred to will be sent soon as practicable. Enemy in New Berne reported demoralized.

G. T. BEAUREGARD

MAY 2, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
Kinston, N. C.:

Hagood ordered to Richmond. I have directed our 20-pounder Parrott to be sent to Hoke.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

MAY 2, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
Weldon, N. C.:

Hagood is under orders and will move at once. Evans will follow. Am I to be left without any. Cavalry all gone. Will not have men enough to do picket duty or guard public property.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 3, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President Confederate States:

MR. PRESIDENT: I think that the late movement of General Burnside to the Rappahannock was owing to a change in the plans of the enemy. Previous to that, great preparations had been made to transport troops by water, and I know of no force for which they were intended except that of General Burnside. In addition to the impressment of the steamers about Baltimore, which has already been reported, I send you an extract from the Philadelphia Inquirer, from which you will see that the boats on the Hudson were also chartered. The character of these boats shows that they were not intended for a distant expedition. I also inclose a report* from one of our most intelligent and trustworthy scouts, which I think indicates correctly what the enemy would desire to accomplish. Reports from Generals Breckinridge and Imboden confirm the intelligence of the return of the force lately threatening us in Western Virginia. It may be that they now intend to move up the valley toward Staunton.

In collecting troops to operate in the Peninsula or south of the James, the enemy will no doubt draw from the Southern coast. Indeed, the removal of troops from Florida and Port Royal began as early as April 13 and 17, as you will see by an extract from a Northern paper published in the Dispatch of yesterday. A letter from Port Royal, of the latter date, states that a large force would leave

* Not found.

next day for Fortress Monroe, and one from Jacksonville, dated April 17, speaks of troops leaving Florida. It may be that some of these may have been since diverted by the events in North Carolina, but the time of their withdrawal indicates that they were not originally intended for that State, and I have no doubt they were to form part of the army of General Smith at Fortress Monroe. The officers commanding in North Carolina will be able to ascertain whether any part of this force has come to that department, but I think, taking all the information together, that we should rather look to see them operating against Richmond, and make our preparations accordingly.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Indorsement of General Lee on a report of Burke, the scout, forwarded to the President with the foregoing letter.]

HEADQUARTERS.
May 3, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for information of the President.

This is from one of the most sagacious of our scouts, who was sent into Maryland for the purpose of ascertaining the plans of the enemy. I think it embodies his designs, as it corresponds with other information, and is supported by movements as far as ascertained. Generals Breckinridge and Imboden both report the troops that had gone west to Beverly, &c., as returning east. I think they will move up the valley. It is their better move. I hope General Breckinridge will be ordered to unite with Imboden to drive them back. If General Beauregard can take care of the flank movement on Richmond, and I can get all the troops belonging to this army, Pickett, Hoke, and R. D. Johnston, I will endeavor to hold the front. If this cannot be done it may be better for me to be nearer Richmond, which I request the President to decide. I do not think that Burnside has 27,500 men, and I do not know where General W. F. Smith can get 35,000.* He will get all of those that can be drawn from Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas, in addition to those at Suffolk, on the Peninsula, &c.

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE.
No. 103. } *Richmond, May* 3, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XII. Capt. Fleming Gardner, Corps of Engineers, Provisional Army, C. S., will proceed without delay to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding for assignment to duty with his chief engineer.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Smith to Shaffer, May 2, 1864, p. 348.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. ENGINEERS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VA.,
May 3, 1864.

The following outlines of the duties of engineer officers, serving with troops, is given in order that there may be conformity in the reports to this office required of them, and further that all may clearly understand the nature of the duties expected of them to perform:

First. The general position of engineer officers is with the advance of the commands to which they belong, keeping, if possible, in communication both with their immediate superiors (their corps or division commanders) and those under them. All information transmitted to these headquarters will in like manner be communicated to the corps or division commanders if it has reference to the safety or movements of their troops. The orders of said commanders are likewise to be obeyed, but when they conflict with any issued by the chief engineer they should be given in writing, so that the responsibility of any failure that may result in consequence be clearly shown. The duties when in a region not well known are sketching the prominent features of the country on either side of the route taken, estimating distances, noting the streams, whether easily crossed by artillery without preparation, or only by cavalry or infantry; all roads and bridges needing repairs, extent and nature of same; suitable places for camps, and number of troops that can occupy them; whether wood and water are convenient; particularly marking all defensible positions, their extent and capabilities of being approached or flanked, which points are weak, and from what cause; as many names of points and places should be gathered as possible and noted on the sketches taken, so that they can be described definitely.

Second. When in the immediate vicinity of the enemy they are expected to reconnoiter his force and position, noting and giving information of any weak points in his or our lines, and in general obtaining such information as may assist the commanding general in making the most advantageous movements and combinations. Should a combination in line of battle be ordered, the division and corps engineers will move rapidly along their fronts, noting whether all parts of their lines join, or if any portion be too far advanced or too much withdrawn, and if so, communicating the fact to one another, as well as their commanders.

Third. An accurate account of duties performed, work accomplished, orders received and carried into effect will be kept, and brief weekly reports of same made to engineer headquarters. After any series of movements or engagements are complete, detailed reports of all operations connected with the engineer department will be sent in to these headquarters.

By order of Maj. Gen. M. L. Smith:

JAS. D. HUNTER,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. L. LONG,
Comdg. Second Corps Arty., Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I had a conversation with the commanding general this morning, in which he expressed some wishes which it is proper I should communicate.

First. While he desires the administration of our arm to be integral, as provided for in Orders, No. 69, of June 4, 1863, and deprecates any clashing of authority between the chiefs of artillery and division commanders, he prefers not wholly to break off associations which have more or less obtained during the war between certain organizations of the infantry and artillery arms, because such associations are considered salutary. A wise regard to proprieties of intercourse between officers the general thinks may obviate all difficulties. He is not, therefore, in favor of an order suggested, declaring the non-existence of any relation between portions of the artillery and infantry divisions and their commanders. Orders, No. 69, as heretofore generally interpreted, he deems sufficient in connection with the judgment and good feeling of commanders and with remedial authority to be exercised, if need be, by corps commanders and by himself.

Second. He wishes me to secure from the corps two or three batteries, whose preferences he would not disregard, to serve with one of the divisions of cavalry. For one I have applied to General Alexander. Can you not spare one? If so, will you cause opportunity to be given for a volunteer engagement in that service? Perhaps one of the five batteries of Hardaway's battalion might do, or one of those might replace the battery from another battalion which should prefer the new sphere. Notoriety in this not wished yet.

Third. In this connection the general thinks it best to equalize batteries and battalions as nearly as may be without needless disturbance at present, batteries to be of four guns and battalions of four batteries. Even in a battalion of three batteries, like Colonel Nelson's, and where one of the companies is very large, the four-gun rule is deemed best; the surplus men to be armed with muskets, and used on occasions as guard, &c.

Please let me hear from you on these points as soon as you can.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General, &c.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. P. ALEXANDER, *Comdg. Artillery, First Corps:*

GENERAL: There are one or two points toward our organization in which your co-operation becomes important:

First. Will you aid me in ascertaining whether King's battalion cannot be gotten for your corps with advantage to the service. General Lee regards the proposal favorably, if the facts be as I stated to him. I had heard that there is besides that battalion a sufficient amount of artillery in that department. If you know the fact it may be well to send up an application for the battalion, accompanied by a statement of the case.

Second. The commanding general wishes me to detach two or three batteries from the corps for service with certain cavalry divisions, and I shall probably depend upon you for one or more, certainly two, I think, if you get King's. One of them he wishes to be from one of the Carolinas or from Georgia; and the preference of officers and men to be reasonably consulted. Please aid me in this matter. The general prefers it should not be made notorious yet.

Third. In connection with this, but as a part also of a general system, the general prefers that our battalions be equalized as nearly as may be without injurious jarring; and that batteries be adjusted to the standard of four guns. In carrying this out, two batteries of Huger's battalion would have each a gun to relinquish, and one of Haskell's will have two, and these four guns might be assigned to Lamkin; then instead of attaching Lamkin to Haskell's battalion, I have thought it might be well for him to go to Cabell in place of Manly, who would be pleased perhaps with cavalry service. To make up to Haskell the loss of Lamkin I propose that you transfer to him one of Huger's batteries, to be agreed upon. Of course it is wished to satisfy as far as possible all parties in such an arrangement. These changes or others equivalent will surely be required, I think, and it is desirable that they be very promptly effected. One reason why some reductions and transfers must be made is, that we cannot get horses for more batteries, scarcely, indeed, for retaining what we have. Our country cannot spare them. Let me hear from you as soon as you can on these several points.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA.,
No. 123. } *Charleston, S. C., May 3, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

VIII. Brigadier-Generals Henry A. Wise and A. H. Colquitt and their brigades are relieved from duty in this department, and will proceed without delay by rail to Richmond, Va., and report to General Samuel Cooper, Adjutant and Inspector General. Quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

By command of Major-General Jones:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 38. } *May 4, 1864.*

The great importance of protecting the agricultural interests of the country induces the commanding general to repeat the orders heretofore issued on the subject of preventing the injury or destruction of private property, and to require of all officers a vigorous enforcement of them during the coming campaign. Troops and trains when on the march will be confined to the roads, except in cases of necessity, and none will be permitted to pass through or encamp in cultivated fields.

Much damage has resulted to fencing and crops by the injudicious choice of ground for encamping and parking the trains of the army. It is enjoined upon commanding officers and those in charge of trains to select locations, where fuel can be conveniently obtained, whenever it is practicable; and, whether in camp or on the march, to give strict attention to prevent injury to fencing, crops, and other private property.

R. E. LEE,
General.

MECHANICSVILLE, *May* 4, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General R. E. LEE.

Commanding, &c.:

I fear that the enemy is trying to draw us down to Fredericksburg. Can't we threaten his rear, so as to stop his move? Fredericksburg will not be a strong position, with the flank and rear exposed to a force at West Point. We should keep away from there, unless we can put out a force to hold any force at West Point in check.

J. LONGSTREET.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
May 4, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. E. P. ALEXANDER,

Chief of Artillery, First Army Corps:

Many of the enemy's camps have disappeared from the front, and large wagon trains are reported moving through Stevensburg. The lieutenant-general commanding desires that you will keep your artillery in such a condition as to enable it to move whenever called upon.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. M. SORREL.
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
May 4, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General FIELD:

Many of the enemy's camps have disappeared from the front, and large wagon trains are reported moving through Stevensburg. The lieutenant-general commanding desires that you will have your division in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. M. SORREL.
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brigadier-General Kershaw.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
May 4, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD,

Commanding Division:

The lieutenant-general commanding directs that you get your division ready to move at once. Please let me know the earliest hour at which you will be able to move. The point to which you will direct your march will be to Richards' Shop, at the junction of the old Fredericksburg road and Lawyer's road, southeast of Verdierville. The best route is probably by Forest Hill, Brock's Bridge, and junction of Marcus and old Fredericksburg road. I will endeavor to send you some guides. You had better, however,

endeavor to get some yourself in addition. The commanding general would like you to get off this afternoon, and make five or six miles on the march. The artillery will move together, under General Alexander.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. M. SORREL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brig. Gen. J. B. Kershaw.)

RODES', NEAR NEW VERDIERVILLE,
May 4, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieutenant-General EWELL:

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to inform you that he will be found in the woods opposite this house to-night. He wishes you to be ready to move on early in the morning. If the enemy moves down the river, he wishes to push on after him. If he comes this way, we will take our old line. The general's desire is to bring him to battle as soon now as possible. General Hill is on this road. Heth has passed this place. Wilcox near here. Longstreet is on our right, moving up. The cavalry in your front has been instructed to keep you informed of all movements of the enemy.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MAY 4 [?], 1864.]

General EWELL:

Nearly everything has left Brandy, and are still moving to the right. A party of the cavalry has left Culpeper Court-House.

WILBOURN,
Captain.

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 4, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that the inclosed extracts* from paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 93, and paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 100, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, relative to the transfers of men from Breathed's battery, horse artillery, to the Maryland Line, be revoked, and that these men remain in their present company. This battery as well as McGregor's was, during the first year of the war, organized under the auspices of the Governor of Virginia as a part of the State troops, and enlisted for the war, the officers receiving their commissions from the Governor of the State. Under the immortal Pelham it received large accessions by recruits from Maryland, and while Captain Breathed remained with it, 3 of its 4 officers were natives of that State. Thus

*Omitted.

have these men, though enlisted for the war in a Virginia organization, been under officers from their own State, and this will continue to be the case, as the officer who succeeds Major Breathed in the command of this battery is also a native of Maryland.

But the most weighty reason why this transfer should not be consummated is that at the very commencement of a momentous campaign a battery which has won for itself a name second to none in this army, whose services cannot be dispensed with without great injury to the cause, will be disorganized and rendered almost entirely useless, and this great injury to the battalion of horse artillery will be without any corresponding gain to our service in any other direction, for these men will probably remain in camp of instruction for a considerable portion of the coming campaign, and in lieu of the distinguished service they might render in the field, will consume their time in the monotonous duties of the camp. I visited this battery yesterday, and find that many of the men are changing their opinions, and, desiring to remain in that company, are requesting that the order for their transfer be revoked. I inclose two of those applications. If this transfer is still insisted upon, I would earnestly request that it may be made gradually as dismounted cavalry are transferred to the company.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 9, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

It is recommended that the order be suspended, if not unconditionally at least for the present. In other similar cases the Department has declined to order these wholesale transfers. In this case it would really amount to a disbandment of the company. This is an inopportune time for such changes.

For General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MILFORD, *May* 4, 1864.

Major-General STUART:

The First North Carolina, now on picket, had better picket Catharpin road to Spotsylvania, connecting there with Lee. I have nothing here.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

NEAR FRONT ROYAL, *May* 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. E. B. STUART:

GENERAL: I have just met a gentleman on furlough (from Bradley Johnson's command) who left Annapolis on April 15. He reports 40,000 men in Burnside's command at that place, including a

large number of negroes; has been detained eight or nine days in crossing the Potomac, but heard nothing of Burnside's moving from Annapolis to the front. It is reported here that Sigel is at Strasburg with a heavy force. His force while at Winchester is estimated by citizens at 9,000. Mr. Webb reports 60,000 men under General Hooker at Harper's Ferry. I will send you something definite to-morrow or next day by young Crane. Two other members of the Maryland cavalry (Colonel Johnson) have just come up; one has been to Washington, and one to Philadelphia. They promise to go immediately to your headquarters, and can give you much valuable information.

In great haste, your obedient servant,

THOMAS D. RANSOM.

Crane leaves Luray for your headquarters this morning.

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, *May* 4, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Reports from our lookouts seem to indicate that the enemy is in motion. The present direction of his column is to our right. General Imboden reports enemy advancing from Winchester up the valley with wagons, beef-cattle, &c.

R. E. LEE.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 4, 1864.

General GEORGE E. PICKETT,
Petersburg, Va.:

Turn over your command to the next officer in rank and proceed with your division staff to Hanover Junction where your division is being assembled; one brigade is there, the others will follow.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

WELDON, N. C., *May* 4, 1864.
(Received 5th.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Was it intended in the order for the movement of troops from this department that the cavalry and artillery should go also? If so, in what proportion?

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
May 5, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Adjutant-General. He should send one-half the artillery and such cavalry as can be spared to Petersburg moving all by dirt road.

For General Bragg:

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

PETERSBURG, *May* 4, 1864.
(Received, 9.30.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

I forward you reports received from lower James. Your dispatch ordering division to collect at Hanover Junction received. Have sent same to General Beauregard, who will designate officer to take command [*sic*] at present. Shall lose no time.

FORT BOYKIN, *May* 4, 1864.

Maj. C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Scouts crossed the river last night and report that a heavy force of negroes landed at Old Point on Saturday, and marched up by land to Yorktown and Williamsburg. Force now estimated on the Peninsula is heavy, at least 50,000; some place it much higher. Burnside has not yet turned up; he was with Meade on Saturday, the 30th, at his headquarters. Many of the troops are from the South. All the fleet now lies off Old Point, only a few scattering vessels and the picket-boats lie at Newport News.

JAS. F. MILLIGAN,
Major and Signal Officer.

DAY'S POINT, *May* 4, 1864.

General PICKETT:

The negro troops which landed at Old Point said to number 10,000. Butler is in command of the whole variously estimated at from 50,000 to 70,000. Baldy Smith and Gillmore are in command of the white troops. Their papers report that Crittenden will be ordered to the Peninsula. A very large fleet of transports off Old Point. The enemy are particularly active. Three steamers ascending the river this morning with canal barges in tow. What the barges contained I am unable to say. Scouts are now in their lines watching their movements.

JAS. F. MILLIGAN,
Major and Signal Officer.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 5, 1864—11 p. m. (Received 6th.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

The enemy crossed the Rapidan yesterday at Ely's and Germanna Fords. Two corps of this army moved to oppose him—Ewell's, by the old turnpike, and Hill's, by the plank road. They arrived this morning in close proximity to the enemy's line of march. A strong attack was made upon Ewell, who repulsed it, capturing many prisoners and four pieces of artillery. The enemy subsequently concentrated upon General Hill, who, with Heth's and Wilcox's divisions, successfully resisted repeated and desperate assaults. A large force of cavalry and artillery on our right flank was driven back by Rosser's brigade. By the blessing of God we maintained our position against every effort until night, when the contest closed. We have to mourn the loss of many brave officers and men. The gallant Brig. Gen. J. M. Jones was killed, and Brig. Gen. L. A. Stafford, I fear, mortally wounded while leading his command with conspicuous valor.

R. E. LEE.

OUTPOST, NEAR GERMANNA,
May 5, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General EWELL:

GENERAL: The enemy are bringing up re-enforcements by way of Germanna and the plank road rapidly. Whilst I write I see a long column moving over the heights beyond the river in the direction of the ford. Their pickets in my front are very active and uneasy. Two or three brigades on the side of the river have just passed toward Fredericksburg in sight of my old post. Their cavalry pickets immediately in my front fell in rear and moved off with them; they still keep them on other parts of the line, though. I will try and keep you posted in regard to their movements from this direction. I shall try and feel them again to-night with dismounted men. I have three good scouts out now on their flank.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. H. H. COWLES.

MAY 5, 1864.

General EWELL:

Major Cowles reports the enemy's cavalry advancing on the plank road near New Hope Church, and on the pike near Locust Grove.

WILBOURN,
Captain.

MAY 5, 1864.

General EWELL:

Captain Wilbourn reports everything moving to our right except cavalry. If so, better move the divisions to occupy lines at Mine Run, and be prepared for action.

LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Mrs. Capps' House, between Parker's Store and Brock Road,
May 5, 1864—[6 p. m.].

Lieutenant-General EWELL:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say that the enemy have made no headway in their attack on General Heth, who is near the intersection of the Brock and plank roads. He hopes to have General Anderson to-morrow morning, and General Longstreet also, and he wants you to get General Ramseur and be ready to act early in the morning. The enemy appear to be on the Wilderness Tavern ridge, and if you see no chance to operate on their right, the general proposes to endeavor to crush their left. He wishes you to send back and care for all your wounded, fill up your ammunition, and be ready to act early in the morning. General Wilcox has just reported that the enemy, who was drawn up on Wilderness Tavern ridge, is all moving up to our right. Should that be the case the general suggests to you the practicability of moving over and taking that ridge, thus severing the enemy from his base, but if this cannot be done without too great a sacrifice, you must be prepared to re-enforce our right and make your arrangements accordingly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. MARSHALL,
Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 5, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-General EWELL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to repeat a message sent you at 6 p. m. The enemy persist in their attack on General Hill's right. Several efforts have been repulsed, and we hold our own as yet. The general wishes you to hurry up Ramseur, send back and care for your wounded, fill up your ammunition, and be ready to act by light in the morning. General Longstreet and General Anderson are expected up early, and unless you see some means of operating against their right, the general wishes you to be ready to support our right. It is reported that the enemy is massing against General Hill, and if an opportunity presents itself and you can get Wilderness Tavern ridge and cut the enemy off from the river, the general wishes it done. The attack on General Hill is still raging. Be ready to act as early as possible in the morning.

Yours, most respectfully,

C. MARSHALL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 5, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General STUART:

Send the two regiments to their brigades. General Hill will have some one to meet and direct them.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The regiments must keep down the plank road to their division.

MILFORD, *May 5, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE:

Receiving no orders from General Stuart, I fear he is absent. One North Carolina regiment here, one on picket, one marching from Richmond. If Gordon leaves now I shall have only 200 men. I ask for instructions.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

MILFORD, *May 5, 1864.*

General STUART:

Good scouts report Burnside passed Bealeton on 3d. Nothing but negroes guarding railroad. All troops left Rappahannock Station for Culpeper. Enemy report Burnside's force 40,000. Scouts think only 20,000.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

MILFORD, *May* 5, 1864—2.20.
(Received Orange Court-House 2.35.)

General STUART:

Dispatch received. Will order pickets out and will advise General Lee.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS HAMPTON'S DIVISION CAVALRY,
Cavalry Camp, Army of Northern Virginia,
Milford, May 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. B. GORDON,
Commanding Cavalry Brigade:

GENERAL: In pursuance of Special Orders, No. 118, Department of Northern Virginia, of April 30, and of instructions from Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, commanding cavalry, you are directed to proceed without delay with your command to the vicinity of Shady Grove, where you will concentrate your brigade and report for further orders to Major-General Stuart. I am directed by Major-General Hampton, in communicating the above orders, to express to you, and through you to your whole brigade, the surprise with which he has received the orders, and the pain it causes him to execute them. He indulges the hope that his wishes may be consulted, and that a new assignment may be made as soon as the present emergency shall have passed, which will return your brigade to his division and give him back the troops to whom he has become so attached and whom he has learned to trust in times of danger and trial.

Indulging this hope, he refrains from saying farewell, but will watch the performance of officers and men in the approaching contest with the same anxious interest as if they were under his own command, confident that if your regiments should be eventually returned to him they will bring back unsullied banners and a record of glory increased and illustrated by new achievements in the coming campaign.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
THEO. G. BARKER,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

LOCUST GROVE, *May* 5, 1864—8 a. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN:

MAJOR: I have furnished from my command this morning one company as advanced guard for Johnson's division. One to scout on the road leading from the pike, 3 miles below Locust Grove, to the Culpeper plank road at Spotswood's house. The remainder I separate here and scout and picket toward Germanna and Jacobs' Fords. This by order General Ewell. The company on advanced guard for Johnson's division is commanded by Captain Barrier; that on the Spotswood road, by Captain Iredell; the scout toward Jacobs' Ford, by Captain Addington; and that toward Germanna, by myself.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. H. H. COWLES,
Major, Commanding.

OUTPOST, NEAR GERMANNA,
May 5, 1864—3 p. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN:

MAJOR: If the services of Captain Borden and detachment are not absolutely necessary on the plank road, I wish you would send him to me. I have a very extensive line of picket duty, and my command is so cut up by details and detachments that I have a very inadequate force to perform it with. The enemy have a large ordnance and wagon train parked on the opposite side of the river; also some artillery, not more than a battery. At 2 o'clock they were crossing a long column of infantry; about three brigades passed on this side in sight of my outpost, in the direction of Fredericksburg.

I am, with much respect, your obedient servant,

WM. H. H. COWLES,
Major, Commanding.

ORANGE SPRINGS, *May* 5, 1864—4.30 a. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

MAJOR: Your dispatches just received. The batteries—Thomson's, Shoemaker's, and Johnston's—will arrive here by 6.30 o'clock. I will reach Dr. Almond's by 9 o'clock. The trains (ordnance and quartermaster) have orders to follow the batteries to-day. Is it desired that they shall move to this point, or not? McGregor will equip his battery with horses from the lot expected last night, as it has orders to report to Maj. Gen. W. H. F. Lee, by daylight, at Orange Court-House.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. P. CHEW,
Major, Artillery.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 5, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: I respectfully suggest that Major-General McLaws be ordered to rejoin his command immediately. I suggest also that you furnish to Secretary of Navy (at same time they are sent here) copies of all dispatches, &c., containing river news, such as is now coming in.

I am, general, very truly, &c.,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

PETERSBURG, *May* 5, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

My signal corps telegraphs that there are four steamers coming up the James River and have passed Fort Powhatan; at 11 o'clock still coming up. Two more below loaded with troops and having barges in tow now in sight of City Point.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding.

PETERSBURG, *May* 5, 1864.
(Received 8.30 a. m.)

General S. COOPER:

Following just received from Captain Rhodes, of my staff:

Thirty transports and gun-boats and two double-turreted monitors in sight off Point, landing or seem to be landing at Bermuda Hundred, and a large party connoitering back of Shirley. They seem to have artillery, cavalry, and a large rce of infantry.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, *May* 5, 1864.
(Received 11.30 a. m.)

General S. COOPER:

The following written dispatch just received from Evergreen Station, 3 miles below City Point, from Capt. N. W. Small, of the Signal Corps, who went down on a reconnaissance:

There are 2 single-turret monitors, 1 double-turret monitor, 3 gun-boats, and at 40 transports in the whole fleet; 2 gun-boats gone up the Appomattox. Each ansport will average 500 men. Some of the transports have horses on board. ite and negro troops in the expedition. They are landing at City Point, and hauled down the Confederate flag and raised the Yankee flag.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding.

PETERSBURG, *May* 5, 1864.
(Received 12.20 p. m.)

General S. COOPER, *Adjutant and Inspector General:*

At 11.15 a. m. five transports stopped at Wilcox's Wharf. Where are the iron-clads?

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, *May* 5, 1864—1 p. m.

General S. COOPER, *Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Following dispatch just received:

One steamer gone down the river; two still lying off City Point. Small parties landing at Wilcox's Wharf, 12 m.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, *May* 5, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

The following dispatch just received from Fort Boykin:

Four monitors, 1 double turret (the Atlanta), 5 gun-boats, 2 iron-clads, 30 transports of different sizes, carrying from 500 to 1,000 troops each, and they are still coming up; also 3 pontoon rafts.

J. R. WOODLEY,
Signal Officer.

I have telegraphed you five times this morning and received no answer. Please answer this.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding.

PETERSBURG, *May* 5, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

The following telegram just received:

Your dispatch received at 12.30 p. m. You are authorized to halt Hagood's brigade at Petersburg until otherwise ordered. Remain in command of your present district until further orders, and assume command of all troops that may arrive therein. Should it be necessary call directly on War Department for assistance until your troops reach you.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

I have sent all the information I have received up to this time, 1.30 p. m.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, *May* 5, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Following dispatch just received by signal from Cobb's Station, the nearest signal station to City Point on this side:

We can make nothing of City Point. We can see 4 men standing on platform dressed either in blue or black.

SHELTON,
Sergeant, at Cobb's.

I infer from this that the enemy have possession of City Point. I have but one regiment here. Troops are arriving from the South. Can't I detain them? Answer at once.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, *May* 5, 1864—3 p. m.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

I have sent you numerous telegrams this morning and fail to obtain an answer. The emergency is so great that I send a courier by train, to say that the enemy in force are coming up the river. The advance is now lying off City Point. I have very few troops here. One regiment, Clingman's, the City Battalion, and the militia. The artillery is composed of the Washington Artillery and two heavy guns, say twenty-one pieces, and no cavalry. Why have not my suggestions and entreaties been carried out about the iron-clads and torpedoes? You had better, if possible, either send troops or have trains ready to reenforce this point, or from here to Richmond should the enemy land at Bermuda Hundred. General Beauregard has ordered me to remain here.

Your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

This was sent to General Bragg and returned on the morning of the 6th instant marked in pencil "seen," as will appear on the second fold.

RIELY

PETERSBURG, *May* 5, 1864.
(Received 8.45 p. m.)

General S. COOPER:

Have you received any telegrams from me to-day? I have sent a great many and received no answers. Have you any guards or any force between this city and Richmond? The enemy have landed at Bermuda Hundred. Unless you guard the railroad they will cut off communication. Reply at once.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding.

RICHMOND, *May* 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON:

Move your brigade instantly to Drewry's Bluff. Boats will be there on which you can cross.

By command of Major-General Ransom:

T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *May* 5, 1864.

Maj. F. W. SMITH:

Endeavor to find out whether the enemy is moving toward Drewry's or toward the railroad. If they seem to be trying to reach the railroad, notify the commander of the brigade which will get off at Rice's Turnout that General Ransom desires him to watch out for the railroad.

T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 105. } *Richmond, Va., May* 5, 1864.

* * * * * * *

VII. Capt. T. H. Bomar will proceed by railroad with his company, now on duty in Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty with his appropriate regiment, the Thirty-eighth Georgia Infantry.

VIII. The Ben Hill Artillery, Capt. John B. Higdon commanding, is permanently detached from the Thirty-eighth Regiment Georgia Volunteers, and upon the arrival of Captain Bomar's company, will proceed by railroad to headquarters Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and report to Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, commanding, for assignment to duty as an unattached.

IX. The Fifty-ninth North Carolina Regiment, Colonel Ferebee, the Sixty-Fifth North Carolina Regiment, Colonel Folk, the Sixty-second Georgia Regiment, Colonel Griffin, and the Seventh Confederate Cavalry, Colonel Taliaferro, will constitute a brigade, to the command of which Brig. Gen. James Dearing is hereby temporarily assigned.

* * * * * * *

XI. Maj. H. W. Gilmor's battalion Partisan Rangers will be immediately mustered into the service of the Confederate States as cavalry. Major Gilmor will then proceed by highway with his battalion of cavalry to Camp Maryland, Staunton, Va., and report to Maj. Gen. A. Elzey, commanding Maryland Line, for assignment. Citizens of other States who are enlisted in any company of this battalion may, if they desire it, be transferred to companies from their own States.

XII. Captain Kincheloe's company Partisan Rangers will be mustered into the service of the Confederate States as cavalry, and will then be assigned to the Fifteenth Regiment Virginia Cavalry.

* * * * * * *

XVI. Capt. Thomas E. Gregg with his battery (Company C, Siege Train), South Carolina Volunteers, will proceed by railroad to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to Lieutenant-Colonel Pegram's artillery battalion, to relieve the Pee Dee Artillery, Lieut. W. E. Zimmerman, commanding.

Lieutenant Zimmerman, on being relieved, will proceed with his battery to Charleston, S. C., and report to Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, commanding, &c., for assignment.

The horses and guns of each battery will remain in the departments in which they are now.

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XIX. Maj. Gen. J. C. Breckinridge will select two batteries from the Thirteenth Battalion Virginia Artillery, for duty in his department, after which Lieut. Col. J. Floyd King, commanding the battalion, will proceed by railroad with the two remaining batteries to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, for assignment to Brigadier-General Alexander's artillery corps.

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XXVI. Col. William Butler, First South Carolina Enlisted Men, is relieved from duty in Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and will proceed without delay to headquarters Department of Richmond, and report to Maj. Gen. R. Ransom, commanding, &c., for assignment to the command of the artillery defenses of Department of Richmond.

XXVII. In all matters relating to the command, military police and operations, the Departments of Henrico and Richmond are hereby consolidated.

Brig. Gen. John H. Winder will report to Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr.

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XXX. The Thomas Legion, North Carolina Volunteers, will proceed by highway from East Tennessee to Western North Carolina Lieutenant-Colonel Love, commanding, will report for orders to Col J. B. Palmer, at Asheville, N. C.

By command of Secretary of War

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 3.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA., *Weldon, N. C., May 5, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

IV. General D. H. Hill is hereby announced as volunteer aide-de-camp on the staff of the commanding general.

V. General D. H. Hill, volunteer aide-de-camp to the commanding general, will proceed at once to Petersburg, Va., and confer with Major-General Pickett, commanding in that quarter, as to present and future operations. General Hill is especially charged with communicating to Major-General Pickett the views of the commanding general.

VI. Col. H. P. Jones, artillery, Provisional Army, C. S., having reported to these headquarters in pursuance of paragraph XIII, Special Orders, No. 116, headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, is hereby assigned to the command of the Washington and Read's batallions of light artillery on detached duty from Army of Northern Virginia, and serving in this department.

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By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May 5, 1864.*

Col. M. W. GARY, *Hampton Legion, Columbia, S. C.*:

Let your command come at once by railroad, debark at Greensborough, march to Danville, thence to Richmond by railroad. The horses with as many saddles as possible send in charge of detachments by highway. You can serve here and are much needed as infantry until you can be equipped; move your men without delay.

SAML. W. MELTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Via Orange Court-House, May 6, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received Richmond, 4.45 p. m. 7th.)

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Early this morning as the divisions of General Hill, engaged yesterday, were being relieved, the enemy advanced and created some confusion. The ground lost was recovered as soon as the fresh troops got into position and the enemy driven back to his original line. Afterward we turned the left of his front line and drove it from the field, leaving a large number of dead and wounded in our hands, among them General Wadsworth. A subsequent attack forced the enemy into his intrenched lines on the Brock road, extending from Wilderness Tavern, on the right, to Trigg's Mill. Every advance on his part, thanks to a merciful God, has been repulsed. Our loss in killed is not large, but we have many wounded; most of them slightly, artillery being little used on either side. I grieve to announce that Lieutenant-General Longstreet was severely wounded and General Jenkins killed. General Pegram was badly wounded yesterday. General Stafford, it is hoped, will recover.*

R. E. LEE.

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* See Butler to Stanton, p. 564

ON PLANK ROAD NEAR BROCK ROAD,
May 6, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: General Lee bids me say that he has received your note mentioning the cavalry raid. He hopes you can repulse it, but wishes you to communicate with General W. H. F. Lee, if possible, and though he has a long line, he may be able to send something on your left to prevent such movements. One of our lines is now parallel to the Orange plank road, and fighting with the enemy. The enemy are said to be passing back from the east.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 6, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General STUART,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your dispatch is received, and the commanding general directs me to say that he approves of your designs, and wishes you success. General Ewell has repulsed all attacks this morning, and Longstreet holds our line of yesterday afternoon. The enemy is making no headway.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. MARSHALL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

MILFORD, *May 6, 1864.*

General STUART:

I move with Gordon's and Wright's toward Shady Grove. Will be near Bethany Church to-night.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

MAY 6, 1864.

Major-General STUART:

I have no good reason for thinking I was fighting infantry, save from the number and manner of firing and reports of officers.

Respectfully,

J. B. GORDON,
Brigadier-General.

ON THE OLD TURNPIKE,
May 6, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General GORDON:

GENERAL: Ramseur reports that the enemy is withdrawing from his right flank toward our left, and it is thought they may be massing there. General Ewell directs me to ask for any information you can give.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. S. PENDLETON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel PENDLETON:

I am having some scouting done from the position of my picket-line in the direction of the stone pike. Will report anything I learn. A reliable scouting party sent out this morning down Flat Run to the plank road leading to Germanna Ford reports that road only protected by a cavalry picket-line. They saw but one regiment of infantry. They say they went 3 miles down the river. They saw ambulances, &c., moving from direction of Germanna Ford to old pike.

Very respectfully,

J. B. GORDON,
Brigadier-General.

OUTPOSTS ON GERMANNA ROAD,
May 6, 1864—8 a. m.

Brigadier-General GORDON:

GENERAL: The enemy (infantry) are moving upon my pickets to the left of Mrs. Willis' house on the Germanna road—a regiment has passed and still coming. A force should be sent in this direction at once—a regiment for skirmishing until more could be brought up if necessary. This move, if continued, flanks you about 2 miles to your left.

Respectfully,

WM. H. H. COWLES,
Major, Commanding First North Carolina Cavalry.

[Indorsement.]

General EARLY or EWELL:

This must be a feint. I don't think it can be intended for a serious movement. This cavalry could keep us informed till the movement here could be made. I still think it best to make the move I spoke of, and it will check any move to our left. If made I should like the order at once. I could feel of them very soon, and then if necessary look after this flanking party.

J. B. GORDON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 6, 1864—6 a. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN:

MAJOR: Your dispatch regarding my camp received last night. Will move Chambliss to-day near Pisgah Church. I have staid here having been notified by General Lee that Averell was expected to cross the mountain. All quiet.

WM. H. F. LEE,
Major-General.

MAY 6, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN:

MAJOR: Your note of 11 p. m. of 4th of May was received this morning. Everything so far in my front and left is quiet. I had

intended before hearing from you to have moved General Chambliss lower down near Pisgah Church, as there is nothing of consequence in upper Culpeper. If Averell is coming it will be necessary to keep this brigade here. General Chambliss has sent scouts toward Luray. The artillery has not reported as yet, but hope to see it to-day. Send a note just received from one of General Stuart's scouts. Please impress upon the general the necessity of sending me my other brigade as soon as it can be spared. Captain Bolling reports a brigade of Yankee cavalry opposite Morton's Ford.

Very respectfully,

WM. H. F. LEE.
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 106. } *Richmond, May 6*, 1864.

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XIII. Lieut. Col. J. R. Waddy is relieved from duty in Charleston, S. C., and will proceed without delay to Weldon, N. C., and report to General G. T. Beauregard, commanding, &c., for assignment.

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XXI. First Lieut. W. Gordon McCabe, artillery, Provisional Army, C. S., will proceed at once to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, for assignment to ordnance duty under Lieut. Col. B. G. Baldwin, chief ordnance officer, &c.

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XXV. The following-named officers of the Subsistence Department will report for duty to Maj. W. W. Morrison, commissary of subsistence, at Goldsborough, N. C., to collect subsistence stores in Eastern North Carolina: Maj. A. B. Garland, commissary of subsistence; Capt. Henry Harney, assistant commissary of subsistence. Previous to reporting to Major Morrison, Major Garland will report to Major Tannahill, commissary of subsistence, at Petersburg, Va.

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XXVIII. Maj. James N. Edmondston, quartermaster, is relieved from duty with Daniel's brigade, Army of Northern Virginia, and will report to Maj. W. H. Gibbons, acting inspector-general transportation, for assignment.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WELDON, *May 6*, 1864.
(Received 5.40 p. m.)

General S. COOPER:

Am I authorized to control to best advantage I may think proper all troops now in this department or arriving? The want of chief

of staff, of ordnance and of artillery, are serious drawbacks to my future operations. Cannot those I applied for be ordered to report to me forthwith?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

(Copies sent to Secretary of War and General Bragg.)

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 6, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
Care of General Pickett, Petersburg, Va.:

Please urge forward by rail the troops ordered from the south to Petersburg, which is much threatened.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

WELDON, *May* 6, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Telegram received. Every effort is being made to transport the troops as rapidly as possible.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MAY 6, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
Weldon, N. C.:

Eleven hundred of Wise go this morning. All of Hagood gone already. Rest of Wise not be here till to-morrow. Can you save Petersburg?

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, *May* 6, 1864.
(Received Richmond, 3.35 a. m.)

Generals COOPER and BEAUREGARD:

The following has just been received from Colonel Randolph at Ivor:

Lieutenant Woodley says, since my last dispatch at 9 a. m., twenty-eight transports, towing canal-boats, schooners, &c., loaded with infantry, cavalry, and artillery, ambulances, and wagons have passed up James River. The transports averaged from 500 to 1,000 each. About 5 batteries, 500 cavalry, 20 wagons, and 20 ambulances have passed my post since my last report.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

(Copies sent Secretary of War and General Bragg.)

PETERSBURG, *May* 6, 1864.
(Received 5.20 a. m.)

General COOPER:

From my outposts the number of transports have been augmented during the night; great activity is reported at Bermuda Hundred, where the enemy seem to be landing in large force.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

(Copies sent Secretary of War and General Bragg.)

PETERSBURG, *May* 6, 1864.
(Received 9.10 a. m.)

General COOPER:

The following just received: "The enemy are advancing in this direction. Post evacuated." Cobb's is the post.

Later.—"The enemy near Strachan's, advancing." Strachan's is about 3 miles from Port Walthall Junction.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copies to Secretary of War and General Bragg.)

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Weldon, N. C., May 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the commanding general to inform you that he has ordered General D. H. Hill, volunteer aide-de-camp, to repair to Petersburg, Va., and confer with you as to present and future operations. He is specially charged with communicating to you the views of the commanding general. The commanding general further desires me to say that he has full confidence in the ability, judgment, and courage of General Hill, and in sending him it is with a view to give you as far as possible the benefit of his experience to aid you in the discharge of your onerous duties in the present emergency, and to secure the best possible disposition of the forces at your command.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
May 6, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that if the enemy attack Gracie in the morning you attack him in flank with vigor if you are not pressed in your own front. If the enemy retire he directs that you press hard upon his rear. I will send a copy of this letter to General Gracie.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. ROWLAND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *May* 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON:

Has Hagood's brigade left yet for Walthall Junction? Answer immediately.

T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MAY 6, 1864.—For Ransom to Johnson, directing movement on Port Walthall Junction, see p. 739.]

DREWRY'S BLUFF. *May* 6, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General JOHNSON, *Commanding Brigade:*

GENERAL: The following dispatch received:

If the enemy attack Drewry's, Johnson is directed to attack in rear immediately and with vigor. As he may not receive the order, which will be sent by courier, please endeavor to communicate this order to him.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. GRACIE, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

RICHMOND, *May* 7, 1864.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Dalton, Ga.:*

There has been two days' fighting at Rapidan. On the 5th the enemy made repeated and desperate assaults, which were each time repulsed with heavy loss to them in killed and prisoners. Yesterday's fight resulted in our turning the enemy's left and driving him before us, leaving his killed and wounded on the field. Our loss small in killed.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 7, 1864. (Received 8th.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

General Gordon turned the enemy's extreme right yesterday evening, and drove him from his rifle-pits. Among the prisoners captured were Generals Seymour and Shaler. A number of arms were also taken. The enemy has abandoned the Germanna Ford road, and removed his pontoon bridge toward Ely's. There has been no attack to-day; only slight skirmishing along the lines.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 107. } *Richmond, May* 7, 1864.

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XVI. Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws will immediately rejoin his command.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 122. } *May 7*, 1864.

I. Maj. Gen. R. H. Anderson is for the present relieved from duty with Hill's corps, and assigned to the temporary command of Longstreet's corps.

II. Brig. Gen. William Mahone, in the absence of Major-General Anderson, will assume command of his division.

III. The personal staff of these officers will accompany them. The officers of the general staff will remain with their proper commands.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 7, 1864—5 a. m.

Lieutenant-General EWELL:

General Lee directs me to say that the reports received from General Stuart during the night indicate that the enemy's cavalry, on their extreme left, was retiring in the direction of Chancellorsville. He wishes to know if you received a note from him last evening, giving the result of the day's operations on this road, and whether you sent anything in return by the courier (Morrison). Courier has not returned to us. The general says if there is nothing to prevent, and it is convenient to you, he would be glad if you would ride over here this morning.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 7, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to say that the Richmond Dispatch, of yesterday, contains extracts from a Northern paper which state that the United States Government has acceded to the demand of the Pennsylvania troops to be discharged at the expiration of three years from the date of their muster into the State service, instead of the United States service, and that 5,000 men will thus be lost to Grant's army. It is said that the time of their discharge is to-day, but the general does not know certainly. Some two-years' men were captured at Chancellorsville last year whose term of service expired a few days after the battle, and it may be that the three-years' men enlisted at the same time. The general thinks it best to bear this in mind, to avoid being misled by movements to the rear. I inclose the latest from General Stuart.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. MARSHALL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

* See Stuart to Lee, 9.30 a. m., p. 969.

MAY 7, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General EWELL:

GENERAL: I have reached the Germanna plank road at Beale's house, having possession of Beale's house. I shelled about two regiments of cavalry away, much the larger portion traveling rapidly toward Fredericksburg along the plank road, and the balance fleeing down the same road toward the ford. I have seen nothing but cavalry. I have thrown out a line of skirmishers toward the Spotswood house. This position can't be held, except with a large force. With the present force I can't hold it.

Very respectfully,

A. L. LONG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

PICKET-LINE FIRST NORTH CAROLINA CAVALRY.
May 7, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General EWELL:

The enemy about an hour ago took up their pontoon bridge at Germanna Ford, and moved off hurriedly in the direction of Ely's.

W. H. CHEEK,
Colonel First North Carolina Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA.
May 7, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-General EWELL,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to say that he has instructed General Anderson to put Longstreet's corps in motion for Spotsylvania Court-House as soon as he can withdraw it from its present position. He will proceed either by Todd's Tavern or Shady Grove Church, as circumstances may determine. The general desires you to be prepared to follow with your command should it be discovered that the enemy is moving in that direction, or should any change in his position render it advisable.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—General Lee will be at Parker's Store to-night. Rodes is closing in to Hill.

MAY —, 1864.*

General EWELL:

Fitz. Lee reports the enemy within 5 miles of Fredericksburg. We must try and attack his rear. Move your corps along as far as prudent. Is Early ready to follow? Cavalry will replace your pickets. Let me know what opposes you.

LEE,
General.

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*Without date; probably May 7 or 8.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 7, 1864.

Lieutenant-General EWELL.
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to instruct you to call the attention of officers to the importance of seeing that the troops are promptly supplied with ammunition. Precaution should be taken that the supply in the hands of the men is not exhausted before additional is procured. It will not do to wait until the ammunition is entirely exhausted before steps are taken to resupply the men. The general also desires that the ammunition be husbanded as much as possible, and that the men do not discharge their guns unless they are sure the enemy is before them.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to General Stuart.)

HEADQUARTERS,
May 7, 1864—1 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. E. B. STUART:

Your note of 10.45 p. m. on 6th just received, but it contained no inclosure; hence the movement reported by General Fitz. Lee is not known. Please communicate it at once.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 7, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: The enemy flanked around my line of skirmishers and compelled me to leave the position at the mouth of the lane. I am, however, very near it, and am now moving up to take the same position again. They came back to Todd's Tavern again this morning, and are again operating on the same ground on which they were yesterday on the Brock road, between Todd's Tavern and the left of their infantry line.

J. E. B. STUART,
Major-General.

P. S.—The enemy fired 2 or 3 shots of artillery from the direction of Stevens' house.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 7, 1864.

Major-General STUART,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to say that he wishes you would make an examination and thoroughly inform yourself about the roads on our right, which it would be advisable or necessary for us

to follow should the enemy continue his movement toward Spotsylvania Court-House, or should we desire to move on his flank in that direction. Find out about the roads which the infantry would take, and upon which our artillery, &c., could be thrown around. The enemy now and then advance and feel our lines, and the general thinks there is nothing to indicate an intention on his part to retire, but rather that appearances would indicate an intention to move toward Spotsylvania Court-House. Your note of 12 [o'clock] received. General Ewell reports that they (the enemy) have abandoned the Germanna road, and the general thinks they may move toward Fredericksburg or Spotsylvania Court-House and must open some new way of communication. The general is now about starting to visit General Ewell's lines. He relies upon you to keep him accurately informed of the enemy's movements should they be in the direction above indicated.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Fitz. Lee's note, indorsed by you at 1.30 p. m., just received. The general says that if what is reported therein is true, it confirms his suspicions. He desires you to ascertain what is going on in the direction alluded to.

Respectfully,

W. H. T.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 7, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. E. B. STUART:

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to say that Major Cowles reports that his scouts are of the opinion that there was a movement of the enemy's wagons on the Culpeper plank road toward the river during last night. Some of the scouts who went near the road report this quite confidently. The general thinks it may be their supply trains going back after having been emptied to be refilled, or for some other such purpose, but he wishes you to have it investigated to ascertain the truth of the matter and its real meaning if practicable.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 7, 1864.

Major MCCLELLAN:

MAJOR: The order directing [Brig. Gen. John B.] Gordon to move to-morrow shall be extended [executed]. But I suggest to the major-general commanding the propriety of ordering that brigade remain here for the present. Rosser's brigade is greatly reduced, and Young's has not three full companies; in number here both together do not make a brigade, and I think that two brigades with me and one with Gen-

eral William H. F. Lee would be more equitable than the reverse of that arrangement. Gordon's men will fight none the worse for being with their old comrades and in their old command, and we certainly need cavalry here.

I am, very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, May 7, 1864.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR:

SIR: Permit me to call your attention to the fact that the obstructions in the river near Drewry's Bluff are not yet opened to admit the passage of the naval vessels now ready for service below them, and that the work of removing them seems to have ceased. I deem it proper to urge that the passage through them be completed without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary.

[First indorsement.]

MAY 7, 1864.

ENGINEER BUREAU:

I understood some days since that there was a distinct understanding with the honorable Secretary of the Navy that the obstructions would be removed at any time that he would name when his vessels would be ready, and that he was to give a few days' notice. Is not this so? Since he now desires the obstructions to be moved so as to allow the desired passage let it be done.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Second indorsement.]

The work has never been discontinued in removing the obstructions since the order for doing so was first given, except during freshets, when it was impossible to work. Every effort has been made to get them out, and I believe there is now and has been enough water to pass them since they have been ready to move.

W. H. STEVENS,
Colonel of Engineers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 107. } *Richmond, May 7, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

XXIV. Brig. Gen. F. T. Nicholls, commandant, &c., Lynchburg, is hereby authorized to call out temporarily such portion of the reserve forces as may be necessary for guarding the prisoners now at Lynchburg, Va.

XXV. Paragraph V, Special Orders, No. 101, current series, is hereby amended so as to read as follows: Brig. Gen. James L. Kemper, Provisional Army, C. S., is temporarily detached from his brigade and assigned to the reserve forces of the State of Virginia, enrolled and mustered into service in accordance with the fifth and sixth sections of the "Act to organize forces to serve during the war," approved February 17, 1864. His headquarters will be at Lynchburg, Va.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WELDON, *May* 7, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General S. COOPER:

General Pickett reports 3,000 enemy's cavalry having crossed Blackwater, cut wire along Norfolk railroad, marching probably on Stony Creek or this place. Am making best arrangements practicable to oppose them, but most of the cavalry of this department is still with General Hoke, whose forces will only commence arriving to-night at Kinston. Half of Wise's brigade is expected here in a few hours on its way to Petersburg. Hagood's last detachment passed here last night.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[MAY 7, 1864.—For three dispatches from Pickett to Johnson, see p. 242.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Walthall Junction, May 7, 1864—10 p. m.

General RANSOM:

GENERAL: I shall take the position you have suggested in your communication of this evening. I shall be in the position by 2 or 3 o'clock. We have held our position to-day with a loss of over 500 aggregate in killed and wounded. The enemy tore up a short piece of the railroad on the Richmond end during the night and cut the telegraph wires.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON.

RICHMOND, *May* 7, 1864

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON,
Port Walthall Junction

Your success is cheering. Hold on to your position, but you will have to look to Petersburg for reenforcements.

By order of General Ransom:

T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY —, 1864*—10 a. m.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY:

The enemy moving slowly on both roads; now 2 miles from outer line. No artillery seen yet. I suppose it is a reconnaissance. Skirmishers of infantry will meet him half mile from the line.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May 7, 1864*—3.15 p. m.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Richmond:

I found General Gracie on the intermediate line. I have ordered him to the outer, and I am extending on his right as General Johnson directed. This line is very insecure; is too long and far from support; is broken, and the timber is too close. There are roads which enable the enemy to turn it without great caution. The scarcity of artillery is greatly felt upon it. General Ransom has not inspected it in person. I respectfully recommend that the abandonment of the intermediate line, I am sure, can be kept by the force here. The engineer in charge is decidedly of this opinion. Considerable firing is heard in direction of General Johnson's position.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 7, 1864.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Please hurry up ammunition for which Maj. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] howitzer [illegible] rounds of [illegible]. Rives' battery of [illegible] pieces is now in Fort Stevens. Cannot [illegible] battery be sent before daylight? A cavalry prisoner, captured at Ware Bottom Church, reports expedition to consist of parts of Tenth and Eighteenth Corps. He says that Butler commands the whole, which I doubt.

A. GRACIE, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 7, 1864—[illegible] p. m.

General RANSOM,
Richmond:

GENERAL: I [illegible] one of my scouts, who gives information [illegible]. Mr. Chesney will [illegible] and [illegible]. The enemy [illegible] toward Chester [illegible]. They are [illegible] on the left of the railroad [illegible] Port Walthall Junction. Butler in command.

Very respectfully,

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

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*Without date; probably May 7.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, [*May*] 7, 1864.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I sent last night two wagons with ordnance to General Johnson. Have heard nothing from him. Please dispatch him and have the two wagons belonging to the post returned.

A. GRACIE, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Via Orange Court-House, May 8, 1864.
(Received 4.29.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

The enemy has abandoned his position and is moving toward Fredericksburg. This army is in motion on his right flank, and our advance is now at Spotsylvania Court-House.

R. E. LEE.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
Via Orange Court-House, May 8, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

After a sharp encounter with the Fifth Army Corps (Warren's) and Torbert's division of cavalry, General R. H. Anderson with the advance of the army repulsed the enemy with heavy slaughter and took possession of the Court-House. I am the more grateful to the Giver of all victory that our loss is small.

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 8, 1864—9 p. m. (Via Orange Court-House, 9th.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

After the repulse of the enemy from Spotsylvania Court-House this morning, receiving re-enforcements, he renewed the attack on our position, but was again handsomely driven back.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 123. } *May 8, 1864.*

I. Lieut.-Gen. A. P. Hill is relieved from duty on account of sickness. Maj.-Gen. J. A. Early is for the present detached from the command of his division of Ewell's corps and assigned to the command of Hill's corps during the absence of General Hill.

II. Hays' brigade, of Early's division, is transferred to Johnson's division, and will be united for service with Stafford's brigade of the same division. Each brigade will retain its present organization and the two be under the command of Brigadier-General Hays.

III. Lieutenant-General Ewell will transfer R. D. Johnston's or some other brigade of Rodes' division to Early's division.

IV. Where changes of commanders are made without a corresponding change of command the personal staff of the general officers will accompany them.

The officers of the general staff will remain with their proper commands.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, Va., May 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, Swift Creek:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that he has written to General Hill ordering the whole line forward to occupy the ground of yesterday, leaving, of course, enough force to cover Swift Creek from a movement of the enemy on it. You had better move at once. Keep up a communication with Barton, but continue to report here.

I am, general, with much respect, your obedient servant,

C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Memorandum field return of troops at Swift Creek.

	Effective total	Total present	Aggregate present
Staff and staff			3
Johnson's brigade	852	1,070	1,168
Hagood's brigade	2,179	2,248	2,370
21st North Carolina Regiment	668	727	773
Hankins' battery			
Humes' [illegible] battery			
Total present			4,316

These were the only forces under command of General Johnson when the report was called for on the 7th. Orders have been sent to the other commands to forward reports, and they will be forwarded as soon as received.

R. E. FOOTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 8, 1864.

MAY 8, 1864.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Richmond:

Two dispatches just received. Smuggler's report forwarded you at 1.30 p. m. Ordered him to press on; report present position of enemy. Engineers say will try to have passage open by dark to-morrow.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General

MAY 8, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Colonel Shingler has just returned. Reports that the picket-line of the enemy is the same as heretofore; that Port Walthall Junction is vacated; the dead and wounded of enemy left on the field. He had not received my dispatch (to press the lines and find the position) but was informed that they were now fortified, extending from river to river. I have sent out the cavalry again to drive in the pickets and ascertain the facts.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 8, 1864—6.35 p. m.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A scouting party has just got in from vicinity of Port Walthall Junction. Found many wounded and dead Yankees on the battlefield; some of our own dead; a great many guns, cartridge-boxes, &c. The scout in command (Thorn) pressed on, the pickets and skirmishers with them. They occupy the same posts as yesterday. Thought he saw tents. Heard that the enemy were fortifying.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 8, 1864—8.45 [p. m.].

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A dispatch just received from General Johnson, dated 5.30 p. m., says:

> Enemy's gun-boats shelled the heights below Clifton to-day. It is probable they design to occupy those heights. We have no other movements of the enemy to report to-day.

B. R. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

Nothing yet from the party of cavalry last sent out to attack pickets.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

[MAY 8, 1864.]

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Richmond:

I have sent you five or more telegraphic messages to-day. Have not the copies here to give exact number. Have you yet received them? Nothing from Colonel Shingler since his dispatch dated 12 o'clock, which I forwarded to you at 1.20 p. m. I supposed yours, No. 5, 1.30 p. m., was in reply to that. Shingler was ordered to press the enemy and ascertain their position. I have nothing from him.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 8, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Colonel Shingler reports that he drove in the pickets three times. There were at least three brigades within a mile or two of Ware Bottom bridge toward James River. Two extensive lines of campfires are visible; one toward James River, the other toward Petersburg. Heard what he thought a slight engagement this evening. I suppose the same firing that General Johnson reports as against Clifton Heights. An infantry scout drove in the pickets this afternoon near Ware Bottom Church. Saw line of breast-works and tents behind them.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May 9*, 1864—9 p. m.

General BRAGG,
Richmond:

The President has just left here, and will tell you what is to be done by me, and what is condition of affairs.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, *May 9*, 1864.

Maj. GEORGE H. TERRETT,
Drewry's Bluff:

How is the condition of affairs? Is the enemy in sight?

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 9, 1864—10 a. m.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy:

Orders just received from General Barton to get in readiness to meet the enemy immediately. It is reported that the enemy are within 2 miles of the trenches, and advancing slowly and in force.

Your obedient servant,

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding Post.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 9, 1864—7 p. m.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy:

There has been quite a heavy sight in the direction of Port Walthall. My command is in position in the trenches and everything in readiness. I will keep you informed of the occurrence of anything important.

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 9, 1864.

Col. W. H. STEVENS,
Engineers:

We have succeeded in getting off the pile-driver, and will be in Richmond in the morning by 7 o'clock. Let Fox get up steam and have the ways ready. Send the Towres here by 5 o'clock to-morrow to assist in towing it up.

CHAS. T. MASON,
Captain of Engineers, Army of Northern Virginia.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 9, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Col. LLOYD J. BEALL,
Commanding Marine Corps, Richmond, Va.:

The enemy are reported to be within 3 miles, and advancing slowly and in force.

I. GREEN,
Major, C. S. Marine Corps.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 9, 1864—1 p. m.

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move forward at once and see what the enemy are doing. Further instructions will be sent in course of half an hour. I inclose a copy of dispatch just received from General Bragg.

I am, general, yours, &c.,

C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

RICHMOND, *May* 9, 1864—11.10 a. m.

General G. E. PICKETT:

Push forward all the troops as fast as they arrive to recover the position lost and reopen the road telegraph to this point. Should the enemy move, as is now reported, on Drewry's Bluff, we must assail him in rear from Port Walthall Junction. Major-General Hoke on his arrival is to command north of the Appomattox.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

MAY 9, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General JOHNSON:

I would not bring on a general engagement if possible to avoid it. No troops additional can possibly reach here before 3 p. m. to-day, and they will only be one regiment of Wise's brigade, some 500 strong. Hoke and Ransom have passed Weldon. I have sent a regiment toward Broadway with some artillery. Hope to do the enemy some damage. Let me know what is going on.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General, Commanding.

RICHMOND, *May* 9, 1864—12.30 p. m.
(Received 1.10 p. m.)

General PICKETT,
Petersburg:

The enemy are moving on Drewry's Bluff. All the troops at your disposal must move immediately and assail him in rear. This admits of no delay.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS,
Swift Creek, May 9, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The order to advance is received, and I have given the order to commence the movement.

Yours, very respectfully,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 9, 1864.

General JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Since the order was given for your advance General Pickett has sent another countermanding it, telling you to hold the line of Swift Creek if the enemy, as reported, were advancing in force on you.

Yours, &c.,

C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 9, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that your note is to hand, and that you can push on at once with the command, leaving only enough to cover Swift Creek. Please communicate this to General Johnson.

Yours, respectfully,

C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MAY 9, 1864.—For Pickett to Johnson (received 3.45 p. m.), directing the holding of the line of Swift Creek, &c., see p. 245.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 9, 1864—6 p. m.

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that the enemy are advancing in considerable force on the City Point

road. He has gone out to look at the line. He directs that you have a regiment ready to take the cars, should we send an order for them to re-enforce this side.

I am, general, with much respect, your obedient servant,

C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA.
Petersburg, Va., May 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your dispatch received. Two regiments will be here in half an hour. They shall be at once forwarded to you. Have an officer at the railroad to put them in position. More troops are expected by 5 in the morning, and shall be at once forwarded to you without delay.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. A. BRIGHT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT.
Drewry's Bluff, May 9, 1864. (Received 6 p. m.)

General B. R. JOHNSON,
Swift Creek.

I am now ready for the enemy. He is reported moving toward Chesterfield Court-House. If so, you ought to strike him and he will be lost. General Bragg told me Pickett had been ordered to strike if the enemy came this way. Communicate this to Pickett. Barton will send you the news from General Lee. It is glorious. By to-night Grant will, I trust, have lost all. Communicate with me as often as possible. We have reliable intelligence that all Beauregard's force will be at Petersburg very shortly. Thank you for thrashing the Federals at Walthall Junction.

Yours, &c.,

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's, May 9, 1864—9.30 p. m.
(Received 1 a. m. 10th.)

[General B. R. JOHNSON:]

GENERAL: General Ransom directs me to request you to give him [illegible] and accurate information of affairs in your front. He wishes to know if you are being pressed, and, if not, where the enemy is. We have but little demonstration in our front to-day. We wish this information before daylight.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. ROWLAND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The general will remain at Drewry's house to-night.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 9, 1864—5 p. m.

Major CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Richmond:

Let Custis Lee remain at Manchester.

T. ROWLAND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 9, 1864—7:30 [a. m.].

General B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have nothing of interest to communicate this morning. It was supposed in Richmond that the enemy was retreating. My scouts report that he has occupied a fortified line running from river to river. I have no reports from the front yet. Nothing yet from General Lee of his operations on yesterday. A heavy cannonade was reported to be going on near Ely's Ford up to 11 a. m., when it ceased. Deserters tell me that there is a very large proportion of the force in front of us of engineer troops—fully a third. Does your information confirm it? I send a detachment to communicate with you by the turnpike. It is reported that the enemy have not ventured to the Junction since the handsome beating you gave him day before yesterday.

Very respectfully,

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 9, 1864—3.10 p. m.
(Received 6 p. m.)

General B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 1 p. m. just received. We have rumors of a large force moving on Chesterfield Court-House from Chester. A demonstration was made against me this morning. A few shots from picket-line seem to have frightened the party, as I am yet unable to find them. General Ransom, who has just arrived, tells me that General Lee says Anderson pitched into Grant near Spotsylvania Court-House and made heavy slaughter; our loss inappreciable. I am afraid you have had all the luck with these people about us. They must abandon their enterprise on hearing of Grant's disasters.

Very respectfully,

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 9, 1864.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing new this morning. All quiet. Have ordered the cavalry to feel the position. No reports from the front. The enemy's cavalry came up to the outer line of mounted vedettes in the night and retired.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 9, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

An additional force of enemy moving up railroad. Now near outer line where it crosses railroad.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 9, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Enemy have halted and formed line at Perdue's.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 9, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy has just opened with artillery on the left.

S. M. BARTON,
Brigadier-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 9, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General GRACIE:

Respectfully forward to General Gracie the following dispatch just received by me:

General Gracie, with his brigade, is crossing over to Drewry's Bluff. Inform him that General Bragg telegraphs to suspend the order for moving, but to hold himself in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

H. H. SENGSTAK,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, *May* 10, 1864.
(Via Guiney's, 11th. Received 2.45 p. m.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

General Grant's army is intrenched near this place on both sides of the Brock road. Frequent skirmishing occurred yesterday and to-day, each army endeavoring to discover the position of the other. To-day the enemy shelled our lines and made several assaults with infantry against different points, particularly on our left, held by General R. H. Anderson. The last, which occurred after sunset, was the most obstinate, some of the enemy leaping over the breastworks. They were easily repulsed, except in front of Doles' brigade, where they drove our men from their position and from a four-gun battery there posted. The men were soon rallied, and by dark our line was reestablished and the battery recovered. A large body of the enemy moved around our left on the evening of the 9th and took possession of the road about midway between Shady Grove Church and the Court-House. General Early with a part of A. P. Hill's corps drove them back this evening, taking one gun and a few pris-

oners. Thanks to a merciful Providence our casualties have been small. Among the wounded are Brigadier-Generals H. T. Hays and H. H. Walker.

R. E. LEE.

(Same to the President and General Bragg.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 10, 1864—8.15 p. m.

General EWELL:

GENERAL: It will be necessary for you to re-establish your whole line to-night. Set the officers to work to collect and refresh their men and have everything ready for the renewal of the conflict at daylight to-morrow. I wish General Rodes to rectify his line and improve its defenses, especially that part which seemed so easily overcome this afternoon. If no flanking arrangement a ditch had better be dug on the outside, and an abatis made in front. Perhaps General Grant will make a night attack as it was a favorite amusement of his at Vicksburg. See that ammunition is provided and every man supplied.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 10, 1864.

Col. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON:

Have you heard of the whereabouts of the enemy? Have Stuart and Fitz. Lee, or either, actually moved? They should do so by all means at once, if not on their way.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HANOVER JUNCTION, *May* 10, 1864—10.40 p. m.
(Received 11.30.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

At 5 p. m. the enemy were grazing their horses at Ground Squirrel Bridge on the South Anna, 9 miles from here. I have as yet no proof that he is going to Richmond. Have sent out scouts to intercept the head of a column moving in that direction. I will report as soon as heard from.

BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Colonel, Commanding.

HANOVER JUNCTION, *May* 10, 1864.
(Received Richmond, 7.45.)

Maj. S. B. FRENCH, *Commissary of Subsistence:*

The enemy were reported at Negro Foot about 3 o'clock and are moving rapidly. All information indicates they are pushing for Richmond. Force estimated at 8,000 to 12,000, with about twenty pieces of artillery and a large wagon train.

GEO. W. T. KEARSLEY,
Major, C. S.

ATLEE'S, *May* 10, 1864.

General B. BRAGG:

I have recommended that the dismounted men of the Cavalry Corps be organized and sent to Hanover Junction, to report to Col. Bradley T. Johnson. I think by this arrangement that he could be reenforced nearly 1,000 men, they doing us no good. If you can send me an engine and a few cars to Atlee's Station I can send him this evening 250 dismounted men, who are drilled and organized into companies. Courier reports my pickets at Cold Harbor driven in; think probably that it is only a scouting party of the enemy.

FITZ. LEE,
Major-General.

(Indorsement.)

Respectfully referred to the Adjutant and Inspector General.

The suggestion is a very good one. The men are not needed here, and would secure General Lee's communications, and be ready to join when their horses come up.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 10, 1864—5.15 a. m.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Richmond:

I move to press the enemy. Inform General Bragg. Hunton is at Chaffin's.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Below Drewry's Bluff, May 10, 1864—6 a. m.

General BRAGG:

Shall I pass so far as to uncover entirely Drewry's Bluff? Answer at once.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

NEAR DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 10, 1864—4 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Thus far the enemy have not passed beyond the point of our attack this morning.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's House, May 10, 1864—7 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Richmond, Va.:

We have definitely ascertained that our loss amounts to only about 25 killed and 175 wounded; 1 officer killed and 1 wounded. The enemy show no disposition to push their pickets farther from than the battle-field.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 10, 1864—4 p. m.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Send two cars to Chester Station immediately for wounded. Direct them to proceed cautiously until they see our pickets.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

MAY 10, 1864.

Maj. W. S. BARTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Richmond:

Have had a sharp fight on the enemy's lines. Captured some prisoners. I am unhurt.

S. M. BARTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, Va., May 10, 1864—2.30 a. m.
(Received 4.30 a. m.)

General B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding, &c.

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to inform you that General Wise, with two of his regiments, just arrived here, has been ordered to report immediately to you. Another train with troops, expected about 8 a. m., will be at once forwarded to you. Firing reported in direction of Brander's Bridge. Courier post nearest this city has been removed to the river road. Captain Williams is now in command of courier-line to Richmond.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR SCOTT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—One of these regiments will leave on the cars, the other march by Telegraph road.

R. T. S.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. EPPA HUNTON:

Major-General Ransom directs me to order your brigade to this side of the river instantly. Seven boats are waiting.

Very respectfully,

F. MACRAE,
Adjutant of Post.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 10, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. EPPA HUNTON:

I have just received another dispatch from Major-General Ransom, requesting me to hurry you up, as he needs you immediately.

F. MACRAE,
Adjutant of Post.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 10, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General HUNTON:

Major-General Ransom directs that you bring Major Stark's battalion with you. The lower pontoon bridge (now building) will be finished in time to cross him.

F. MACRAE,
Adjutant of Post.

MAY 10, 1864.

General HUNTON:

Why have you not moved your brigade? And if you are not posted in your front, move all but City Battalion at once to this point as rapidly as possible. Boats ready now to bring you over. Answer if anything urgent.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 10, 1864—1 p. m.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President C. S. A., Richmond:

I have just received the following dispatch from General Ransom: "Thus far we are doing well; the fight is progressing." This is about all the information I can give you.

Very respectfully,

G. H. TERRETT.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 10, 1864—9 a. m.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: There is quite a heavy artillery engagement going on, seemingly on the turnpike below us.

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 10, 1864.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

This city is in hot danger. It should be defended with all our resources to the sacrifice of minor considerations. You are relied on to use every effort to unite all your forces at the earliest practicable time with the troops in our defenses, and then together either fight the enemy in the field or defend the intrenchments. Our lines are a little in front of Drewry's Bluff, crossing the railroad and turnpike.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 109. } *Richmond, May* 10, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XXX. Capt. J. M. Robinson, of the Engineers, is relieved from duty with Major-General Breckinridge, and will report to the Quartermaster-General for special service in connection with railroads. Captain Robinson, under the orders and instructions of the Quartermaster-General, is charged with general supervision over railroad transportation between Richmond and Wilmington, and is authorized to adopt such means and take such control over the rolling-stock of the various roads as will secure the greatest efficiency in transporting troops and public stores. Military commanders will sustain his authority whenever called upon. Whenever any military commander on the route shall need trains for the transportation of troops he will promptly notify Captain Robinson, who will make the necessary arrangements.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. N. CAROLINA AND S. VA.,
No. 5. } *May* 10, 1864.

I. The following temporary organization of the forces is announced:

Infantry: Maj. Gen. G. E. Pickett's division—Corse's brigade, Kemper's brigade, Ransom's brigade, Martin's brigade. Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke's division—Hoke's brigade, Hagood's brigade, Clingman's brigade, Johnson's brigade.

II. Brigadier-General Wise, with his brigade, will relieve Major-General Pickett of the command of the First Military District, and assume command of the same, reporting direct to these headquarters.

III. Col. H. P. Jones is announced as the chief of artillery of the department, and will assume command of the artillery held in reserve. He will order a good battalion (four companies) of light artillery to report to each division commander for duty with their divisions.

IV. On the arrival of Corse's brigade in this city, it will proceed to the north side of the Appomattox River and relieve the regiments of Brigadier-General Wise's brigade, which regiments, on being relieved, will report to Brigadier-General Wise to relieve the regiments of Clingman's brigade. Clingman's regiments, on being relieved, will proceed to the north side of the Appomattox River, and report to Major-General Hoke for duty. Celerity of action is important. Brigadier-General Clingman will move with his brigade.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., commanding, for May 10, 1864; headquarters Richmond, Va.

Command.	Present for duty		Effective total present	Aggregate present	Aggregate present and absent	Pieces of field artillery	Aggregate present and absent last return	Prisoners.	
	Officers	Men						Officers	Men
General staff	10			10	10		10		
Richmond Defenses	90	1,500	1,628	1,850	2,236		2,216		
Hunton's brigade	124	1,625	1,608	2,057	2,962		2,951	25	175
Chaffin's Bluff	22	[illegible]	435	492	566		560		
Drewry's Bluff	17	309	395	443	507		506		
2d Maryland Infantry	23	286	286	361	466		467	4	51
Barton's brigade	106	1,608	1,608	1,945	3,325		3,187	53	342
Total	382	5,687	5,960	7,148	10,062		9,887	82	569
Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion	14	203	201	288	400		397	1	8
42d Battalion Virginia Cavalry	17	220	216	296	657		651	2	1
1st Maryland Cavalry	19	279	279	320	592		591	4	77
Total	50	702	696	904	1,649		1,639	7	86
1st Maryland Artillery	3	74	74	86	123	4		1	9
2d Maryland Artillery	4	71	71	87	96	4	104		
4th Maryland Artillery	1	50	50	59	74	2			5
Stark's battalion	8	213	209	243	268	8	266		
Lightfoot's battalion	12	307	329	362	400	14	393		
Total	28	715	733	837	961	32	763	1	14
Grand total	470	7,104	7,389	8,899	12,682	32	12,299	90	669
Gracie's brigade (just arrived)			1,578	2,197					
			8,967	11,096					

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. D. H. MAURY,
Mobile, Ala.:

Unless the services of General Rains are very important at Mobile send him to this city with the least possible delay.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, *May* 11, 1864.

President DAVIS:

Hoke's brigade is in Richmond please send him with train of [illegible]ons and forage to Guiney's Station. Dispatch necessary. [illegible] answer.

R. E. LEE.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 11, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Spotsylvania Court-House, via Guiney's, Va.:

Hoke's brigade left Petersburg this morning with other troops to effect if possible a junction with Ransom at Chester. I have been

painfully anxious to send your troops to you, but unaccountable delays have occurred, and we have been sorely pressed by enemy on south side. Are now threatened by their cavalry on the Brook turnpike and Westham road. I go to look after defense. Will have supplies attended to at once, and as soon as possible send troops to you. May God have you in His holy keeping and support your efforts for your country's cause.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 11, 1864.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: Yesterday evening the enemy penetrated a part of our line and planted his colors upon the temporary breast-works erected by our troops. He was immediately repulsed, and among the brave men who met him the Twentieth North Carolina Regiment, under Colonel Thomas F. Toon, of the brigade commanded by Brig. Gen. R. D. Johnston, captured his flag. It was brought to me by Maj. John S. Brooks, of that regiment, who received his promotion for gallantry in the battle of Chancellorsville, with the request that it be given to Governor Vance. I take great pleasure in complying with the wish of the gallant captors, and respectfully ask that it be granted, and that these colors be presented to the State of North Carolina as another evidence of the valor and devotion that have made her name eminent in the armies of the Confederacy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, *May* 11, 1864.

Lieut. Col. JAMES L. CORLEY:

SIR: Hon. Mr. De Jarnette called in a few minutes ago to say that in the event of our being unable to send to you sufficient supplies of corn you could obtain enough to keep you going from planters in his county, if we would pledge ourselves to return it within a month, and he gave the inclosed list* of the names of parties who he thought could each let you have 100 barrels on the condition named. While we hope that it may be unnecessary for you to draw upon these sources, yet it is a great relief to us to know that in case of necessity they will be available. You know that our communication with the south is severed between this place and Petersburg, and again between Danville and Weldon. Should our military movements be successful these communications may be reopened within three days. Meanwhile we have made earnest efforts to organize the transportation from Greensborough via Danville, and have made such arrangements as will secure us from 6,000 to 7,000 bushels per day, provided we can keep the Danville road free from raiders. Even here our efforts to keep you supplied have been impeded by the movements of troops, for the telegraph informs us that three trains on the Piedmont road, intended to be loaded with corn, were taken for transporting troops. I am thus full in details that you

*Not found.

may understand the difficulties I contend against in my efforts to keep you supplied. I informed you last night that 1,750 bushels of corn were here loaded on the cars for you, but the proximity of the cavalry of the enemy renders it unwise to risk either the cars or stores by running out as yet. We will wait to be advised by you as to the points to which you wish shipments to be made, as we are all in the dark as to your movements. Meanwhile I have ordered 1,000 bushels of corn to Gordonsville via Lynchburg.

A. R. LAWTON,
Quartermaster-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Camp near Drewry's Bluff, May 11, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Richmond:

The enemy fell back last night from their position of yesterday toward the James River, apparently in some haste. Their pickets have appeared in large numbers on James River in vicinity of Howlett's and Dutch Gap. I have heard nothing yet of General Beauregard.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

MAY 11, 1864.

General BRAGG,
Richmond:

I send you Major Stark with four pieces of artillery. They move at once by land.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Drewry's Bluff, May 11, 1864—1 p. m.

General BRAGG,
Richmond:

Lieutenant-Colonel Haskell reports the turnpike open to Petersburg. Until I hear where General Beauregard is I think it imprudent to move from here. I am ready to move as soon as I hear from him. Inform the Secretary of War of this. Lieutenant-Colonel Haskell went to Port Walthall Junction. Major Branch, of my staff, has found the enemy's fortifications near Howlett's on the river.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Drewry's Bluff, May 11, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General BRAGG,
Richmond:

If Hunton's brigade is not now at Richmond it should return here, so as to join in any offensive movement.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS, &c.,
Near Drewry's Bluff, May 11, 1864—5 p. m.

General BRAGG,
Richmond:

Major-General Hoke has just reported to me. His troops some 2 miles below. It is now too late to attack to-day. What are your wishes?

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May 11, 1864—6.45 p. m.*

General BRAGG,
Richmond:

General Hoke has only 40 rounds of ammunition. He has 11,000 muskets; 8,000 caliber No. .58, and 3,000 caliber No. .69. For full supply we need 360,000 caliber .58, and 180,000 caliber .69. Have you any orders? Send the ammunition by boat, and send wagons to me here by road, as Hoke has no team.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May 11, 1864—5 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Richmond:

According to orders from General Beauregard, I report that I, with six brigades, have formed a junction with General Ransom on the road leading from Petersburg to Richmond. The enemy have retreated upon Bermuda Hundred, either with the intention of leaving or crossing the James River. They have shown very little disposition to fight. The railroad to Petersburg is clear and can be easily repaired.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

MAY [11], 1864.

General BRAGG,
Richmond:

The enemy moved upon the Petersburg railroad to-day after I came to this point.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 11, 1864.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Petersburg:

Division of your forces is earnestly objected to. It is decidedly preferred that you carry out the instructions given last night, and endeavor to unite all forces.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

PETERSBURG, *May* 11, 1864—12.45 p. m.
(Received 3 p. m.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

My division of force is only temporary to meet present emergency. Please state your objections, and your wishes, if practicable, will be complied with. I am carrying into effect to best of ability instructions received; the movement is now in progress, and soon as possible I will unite forces with Major-General Ransom; the equivalent of two full brigades is still due.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 11, 1864.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Petersburg:

Your two telegrams of this date are received. They pain and surprise. I do not feel this to be an appropriate time to reply fully to them. I may do that hereafter. At present I have only to say, that while your past services, patriotism, and reputation are fully appreciated, you are on those accounts only the more relied on and expected to use every effort in your power with all your forces to carry out the instructions of the Department and accomplish the junction of all our forces to fight the enemy or defend the capital.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

PETERSBURG, *May* 11, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

Your second telegram of this date has been received. The troops here and arriving are being pushed forward as rapidly as possible, with proper regard for their safety and the interest of the country. I cannot send them unorganized on a flank march across 9 miles of country occupied by a powerful enemy numbering at least 2 to my 1. The equivalent of two full brigades is yet to arrive, to come here. I relinquish the sick leave I had obtained while in Charleston to recruit my shattered health. I am ready and willing to serve the cause to the utter sacrifice of that health, but if my course be not approved by the War Department I wish to be relieved at once.

G. T. B.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 110. } *Richmond, May* 11, 1864.

I. Col. W. B. Wade, Eighth Confederate Cavalry Regiment, will proceed without delay to High Bridge, on South Side Railroad, and assume command of the home guards and militia assembled at that point for the protection of the bridge.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
May 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. H. WINDER,
Commanding, &c.:

The following dispatch just received from General Bragg is communicated to you as information:

BROOK TURNPIKE, *May* 11, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Col. J. B. SALE:

General Stuart sends word enemy advancing on Brook turnpike 9 miles out, at Yellow Tavern, supposed 9,000 strong.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. B. SALE,
Military Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS.
May 12, 1864. (Received Hanover Junction, 13th.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

This morning at dawn the enemy broke through that part of our line occupied by Johnson's division and gained possession of a portion of our breast-works, which he still holds. A number of pieces of artillery fell into his hands. The engagement has continued all day, and, with the exception indicated we have maintained our ground. In the beginning of the action we lost a large number of prisoners, but, thanks to a merciful Providence, our subsequent casualties were not large. Major-General Johnson and Brigadier-General Steuart were taken prisoners. The brave General Perrin was killed, and Generals Walker (of the Stonewall Brigade) and Daniel severely wounded.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[MAY 12, 1864.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to Averell's operations on Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, see Vol. XXXVII, Part I.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 111. } *Richmond, May* 12, 1864.

I. Until further orders the heads of the various bureaus of the War Department will require their offices to be kept open by night as well as day, with an officer present to meet calls and carry out any special instructions that may require prompt attention: Quartermaster-General, Commissary-General, Chief of Ordnance, Chief of Engineer Bureau, Chief of Signal Corps, Chief of Niter and Mining Bureau, Surgeon-General, Chief of Bureau of Conscription.

* * * * * * *

III. Lieut. Col. J. C. Pemberton, C. S. Artillery, will report to Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., commanding Department of Richmond, for assignment to the command of the artillery defenses of his department.

* * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 12, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
Richmond:

One brigade is now over the river. Two others will be held to move at a moment's notice.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General

MAY 12, 1864—10 o'clock.

General BRAGG:

I have promptly answered every dispatch from you. Cavalry and infantry have gone toward Chesterfield Court-House. I will do all in my power to destroy the enemy, but think prudence should be used on account of this position.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS COMMAND,
May 12, 1864—9 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: The following dispatch just received:

NEAR FALLING CREEK BRIDGE, MR. GATES' HOUSE,
May 12, 1864—7.40 p. m.

GENERAL: Citizens and couriers on the Chesterfield and Richmond road report that the enemy, about 3,000 strong, passed through Chesterfield Court-House at about 1 o'clock to-day and took by-roads leading to the Broad Rock road. This road is neither the direct route to Richmond nor the coal-fields, but each place can be approached by it. It is, however, the most direct route to the Danville railroad. The courier reports to citizens that he stood in the woods and counted their force. It consisted of infantry, cavalry, and artillery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. HASKELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General BRAGG,
Richmond:

The enemy, consisting of 3,000 cavalry, with six howitzers, passed Chesterfield Court-House at from 1 to 6 o'clock this evening for Bellona Arsenal, on the Danville road. From there they may go to Richmond on the river road.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's House, May 12, 1864—12.30 a. m.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch ordering me to Richmond has been received. I will send one brigade by the boats and march the other by the turnpike.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. R. RANSOM,
Richmond:

The strength of the enemy in my front prevents a division of my forces. If you could join me here and we drive them immediately in my front it would protect this place and Richmond, and at the same time would cut off the retreat of the enemy, who have gone toward Chesterfield, and also be of advantage to Petersburg. Major Branch writes me from Chesterfield Court-House that 3,000 cavalry, with six howitzers, passed there this evening for Bellona Arsenal, on the Danville road, and from there they expected to go to Richmond on the river road.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

MAY 12, 1864—11 o'clock.

General BRAGG:

Barton left 10.45. One hour loading from inconvenience of barges. Next column reported miles off. No time will be lost.

FRANK S. PARKER, JR.,
Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 12, 1864—9 p. m.

General BRAGG:

Hoke's and Barton's brigades arrived. Movement will be executed with promptness.

FRANK S. PARKER, JR.,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 13, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General B. BRAGG,
Richmond:

Have just received your dispatch. It has been suggested to me that it refers to the movement of General Hoke's old brigade. That brigade moved from here this morning across the pontoon bridge, but whether it went to Richmond or Chaffin's I do not know.

Very respectfully,

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding Post.

MAY 12, 1864—4 p. m.

General BRAGG:

Have received your second dispatch; have just forwarded it to General Hoke. General Hoke is in the field. Two brigades left this place this morning, marching across the pontoon bridge before the boats arrived. Whether they went to Richmond or Chaffin's I don't know.

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 12, 1864—12.10 p. m.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond:

The enemy are immediately in our front and skirmishing has commenced with small-arms. Have just received the following dispatch from the signal station at Gregory's farm: "Two Yankee regiments are moving this way. I will have to cross the river very soon." Major Terrett is in the trenches. I will keep you informed of the situation.

F. MACRAE,
First Lieut., C. S. Marine Corps, and Adjt. of Post.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 12, 1864—3 p. m.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond:

Skirmishing with small-arms and artillery has commenced again along our immediate front.

F. MACRAE,
First Lieut., C. S. Marine Corps, and Adjt. of Post.

MAY 12, 1864.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of Navy, Richmond:

A dispatch has just arrived to send Hoke's old brigade to Richmond by boats. That brigade has marched from here across the pontoon bridge. This is merely my personal information received from officers of the brigade as they marched by these headquarters.

F. MACRAE,
First Lieut., C. S. Marine Corps, and Adjt. of Post.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 12, 1864.

General BRAGG:

Have received your third telegram; have forwarded it to General Hoke. We have no couriers at our disposition. I have just been informed, unofficially, that the brigade that crossed this morning (General Hoke's old brigade) is coming up to get on the boats.

Respectfully,

F. MACRAE,
Adjutant of Post.

The brigade referred to is just coming up.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 12, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER C. S. STEAMER BEAUFORT,
Navy-Yard, Rocketts:

Bring down the Beaufort and Drewry; also the Allison and any other boats that forthwith can be found to transport troops from the Bluff to Richmond. Lose not a moment.

JOHN K. MITCHELL,
Commanding James River Squadron.

Major TERRETT:

Please have above order telegraphed to Richmond.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 12, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Col. W. H. STEVENS:

The engineer company is here under my orders, attending to pontoon bridge and other work. Will send 8 carpenters at once. Removal of obstructions nearly done.

JNO. A. WILLIAMS,
Lieutenant-Colonel of Engineers.

RICHMOND, *May* 12, 1864—8.10 a. m.

General BEAUREGARD or HOKE:

Your dispatch of yesterday about troops still in North Carolina just now received. You must judge of what is essential to hold our line of railroad. Its safety is vital to us. A portion of Dearing's cavalry will no doubt be necessary to secure Petersburg and Weldon road. That part of South Carolina cavalry which was en route to join Hampton, if with you, should come here.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 12, 1864—11.45 a. m.

General BEAUREGARD,
Petersburg, Va.:

Enemy advanced by new river road, crossing turnpike just ahead of me at 8 a. m. Attached dispatch delivered to me by General Hoke for you. I will come through to-morrow. General Bragg directed me to say he would like to see you in Richmond upon your arrival here.

A. R. CHISOLM,
Aide-de-Camp.

Inclosure.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 12, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD
(Through General Bragg, Richmond):

Yankee prisoners state that they captured dispatch from you to me en route from Petersburg.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. N. C. AND SOUTHERN VA.,
No. 8. } *Petersburg, Va., May 12, 1864.*

I. The limits of the First Military District of the department are extended to embrace that section of country from the Appomattox River running north to Swift Creek.

II. Brig. Gen. James Dearing, with the regiments of cavalry now under his immediate command, will report temporarily to Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise, commanding First Military District, for duty in said district, and to guard the lines between Swift Creek and Drewry's Bluff.

III. Martin's brigade, on arriving in this district, will report temporarily to Brigadier-General Wise for duty in the First Military District. Brigadier-General Wise might assign this brigade to duty on the Swift Creek lines.

IV. Col. A. T. Harrison, commanding the Thirtieth and Seventeenth Regiments Virginia Infantry, having reported at these headquarters, will proceed to Dunlop's, and report to Brigadier-General Colquitt. These regiments will be placed in position with Colquitt's brigade, and be held in readiness to move with the same at a moment's notice.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA.
May 13, 1864. (Via Guinney's, 14th.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

The enemy to-day has apparently been engaged in burying his dead and caring for his wounded. He has made no attack on our lines. The loss of artillery yesterday is ascertained to have been twenty pieces.

R. E. LEE.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 13, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I am directed by the Adjutant and Inspector General to furnish you with the following copy of a telegram sent to Major-General Breckinridge, Staunton, Va.:

If you have no instructions from General Lee to conflict, send immediately an efficient brigade of infantry to Lynchburg to protect that place, and unite with McCausland in defense of Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. The movement should be prompt and rapid.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

The imminent danger in which the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad and Lynchburg are placed by the late expedition of the enemy in Western Virginia necessitated the prompt movement of a force to Lynchburg, and the issue of this order direct to General Breckinridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. L. CLAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT,
No. 3. } *May* 13, 1864.

The troops of this command north of the Appomattox River, between it and Swift Creek, will be under the orders and report to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill. General Hill will report to these headquarters.

By command of Brigadier-General Wise:

JAS. H. PEARCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 13, 1864—10 a. m.

General BRAGG, *Richmond:*

I have heard nothing from General Beauregard, and doubt whether he can communicate; but I will know of his advance by the firing, and will immediately co-operate. The enemy are still in my front.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864.

General BRAGG, *Richmond:*

Heavy skirmishing going on in my front now. I will be ready to co-operate with General Beauregard.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

MAY 13, 1864—4 o'clock.

General BRAGG:

I will be ready to co-operate with General Beauregard.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS COMMAND,
May 13, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General BRAGG, *Richmond, Va.:*

I still hold the outer line, but the force of the enemy is so great that they can go entirely around it, and have now done so. My force is not sufficient to fill up the intrenchments, and I cannot leave them to fight, as Drewry's Bluff has to be protected. General Beauregard writes he would be here this evening. Can any troops be sent down the railroad from Richmond upon the enemy? Or if they could be sent directly here we can push through their lines and join General Beauregard, and then attack their whole force.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 13, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. R. RANSOM:

GENERAL: The enemy are in heavy force on my right between the Bluff and Richmond.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

DREWRY'S, *May* 13, 1864—12 p. m.

Col. J. M. MAURY,
Commanding, Chaffin's:

Major-General Hoke desires me to request you to open fire upon the enemy if within reach of your guns. He expects an attack upon these fortifications in the morning.

JNO. A. WILLIAMS,
Lieutenant-Colonel of Engineers.

MAY 13, 1864.

Col. W. H. STEVENS, *Engineers:*

The steamer Townes is now at the wharf in Richmond. Lieutenant-Colonel Williams went up with her. I have two canal-boats and the Falconer.

CHAS. T. MASON,
Captain of Engineers.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 13, 1864.

Col. W. H. STEVENS, *Engineers:*

The enemy attempted to turn our right flank and were driven back. They now occupy Woodbridges Hill. We heard them cheering this evening. They were answered heartily by our men, who are in good spirits.

CHAS. T. MASON,
Captain of Engineers.

RICHMOND AND DANVILLE RAILROAD,
Coalfield, May 13, 1864—1 p. m.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

The cavalry that cut and destroyed the railroad here last night left here early this morning; said to be about 3,000. They took the Buckingham road, which leads to Appomattox bridge, Richmond and Danville Railroad. They gave out here that they were going to Huguenot Springs. I expect to follow and see which direction they take and will telegraph you.

J. L. MORROW,
Supt. Telegraph, Richmond and Danville Railroad Line.

POWHATAN, *May* 13, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

I arrived here 5 p. m. Telegraph line between Powhatan and Coalfield badly torn down. Have repaired it up to this point. About 1 mile of it down here, which will soon have up. Railroad track torn up and buildings destroyed. Spear's cavalry left Buckingham road a few miles above the pits, and crossed railroad the second time, 17 miles from Richmond. They have gone on to Mattoax Bridge. Considerable firing heard there this evening. I will go as far as that point if possible and report from there.

J. L. MORROW,
Supt. Telegraph, Richmond and Danville Railroad.

POWHATAN STATION, *May* 13, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

We have just arrived at Powhatan, 5 p. m. Powhatan depot is burned and some of the track taken up. Repairs of track can be made in half a day when we can begin. Yankee pickets at present are half a mile beyond this point. There has been firing for an hour or two at the bridge, 5 miles from here, but it has ceased; result not known.

Track is taken up at a point between here and Coalfield, but can be repaired in an hour. Will try and go beyond this point to-night and telegraph you further. Confederate cavalry has not come up yet. I understand they took the Stapsville road, which passes railroad at this station.

C. G. TALCOTT.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 126. } *May* 14, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. The Stonewall Brigade, J. M. Jones' brigade, and the Tenth, Twenty-third, and Thirty-seventh Virginia Regiments, Steuart's, Johnson's division, will be temporarily united to form one brigade, under the command of the senior officer present, and until further orders will be attached to Early's division.

III. Hays' brigade and Stafford's brigade, of Johnson's division, temporarily united for service by previous orders, will for the present be attached to Early's division.*

IV. The corps commander will dispose of the field, staff, and other officers of these several commands to the greatest advantage to the service.

V. Until further orders, the three divisions of cavalry serving with this army will constitute separate commands and will report directly to and receive orders from these headquarters of the army.

VI. The officers of the Adjutant and Inspector General's Department now on duty at the headquarters of the cavalry are temporarily assigned, and will report for duty as follows: Major McClellan, with the headquarters of the army; Major Freanor, with Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee, and Major Venable, with Maj. Gen. W. H. F. Lee. The other officers of the general staff will report to the chiefs of their respective departments at army headquarters, and will be used for service with the cavalry. These officers will be employed by the chiefs of departments to the best advantage in providing for the wants and enhancing the efficiency of the entire cavalry of the army.

VII. The chief of artillery will assign the batteries of horse artillery, and the field officers on duty with the same, to service with the three divisions of cavalry in such manner as will most subserve the interests of the service.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See Special Orders, No. 125, May 8, 1864, p. 974.

DREWRY'S BLUFF,
[*May* 14, 1864]—4 a. m.

General B. BRAGG,
Richmond, Va.:

I arrived here with part of Colquitt's brigade at 3 o'clock this morning. I am awaiting your orders.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 14, 1864.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Drewry's Bluff:

Your command is extended so as to include all that portion of Virginia lying south of James River, including Drewry's Bluff and its defenses. Order will be sent by courier.

S. COOPER.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 112. } *Richmond, May* 14, 1864.

The command of General G. T. Beauregard is hereby extended so as to include all that portion of Virginia lying south of James River, including Drewry's Bluff and its defenses.

* * * * * * *

IV. Lieut. J. Austin Smith, artillery, Provisional Army, C. S., will report at once to General G. T. Beauregard, commanding, &c., at Drewry's Bluff, for assignment to duty with Lieut. Col. J. R. Waddy.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MAY 14, 1864.—For Beauregard to Bragg, submitting plan of operations, see p. 1024.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 14, 1864.

General WISE,
Commanding, &c.:

Order all of your brigade concentrated at once in the city. Commissaries to have four days' rations issued to the troops. Artillery to be in readiness to move. Send a dispatch for General Dearing to return at once.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[Memorandum.]

Chief of ordnance will see that Martin's and Wise's brigades as well as parts of other brigades here are at once supplied with ammu-

nition, 40 rounds on the men and 60 rounds in train. Quartermaster's department supply transportation. Medical director prepare his ambulance train.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS.
May 14, 1864.

General WISE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: In view of the reports just received you may re-enforce Page with one of Colquitt's regiments on its arrival, the other may go to Hill. On arrival of Georgia State Regiment it may remain in town as occasion requires. I think one or two batteries had better move to Page and Goode.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 14, 1864.

General WISE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I do not think it will be right to uncover Petersburg entirely on this side of Appomattox. Nothing could be easier for even a small body of the enemy on this side entering the town in absence of our troops, especially as they would be able to see what was going on from this side. Some of your troops will be obliged to stay and support some of the artillery. The available force to make a demonstration will, I fear, not be very large. What time do you expect Dearing back?

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

POWHATAN STATION, *May* 14, 1864—4 a. m.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

I just returned from Mattoax. The enemy yesterday afternoon went toward Appomattox bridge. When about half a mile from the bridge our forces there opened on them with artillery. The enemy immediately took up line of march and proceeded to Bevill's Bridge across Appomattox, where they crossed. They made no demonstrations on Appomattox bridge. It was supposed their object was to cross Bevill's Bridge and flank our forces at the bridge. At the time they arrived in our front we had only about 175 there. Re-enforcements did not reach there till about 4 p. m. We went from Appomattox bridge to Chula on a train of cars that brought troops there, and upon our arrival at Chula we discovered the enemy were already there, and had torn up some track at that place. Mr. Talcott and men at once abandoned the engine and train and made their escape good. The train was off track by rail being up, and of course could not be gotten away. There is a small force at Swift Creek bridge, between Appomattox and Chula. When I left Mattoax Colonel Harrison was preparing to move his troops

toward Chula, to protect that bridge. If men are wanted, there are about 75 of the railroad hands under arms at the company shop, Manchester, and they might do good service.

J. L. MORROW,
Supt. Telegraph, Richmond and Danville Railroad.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May 15, 1864.*

General BRAGG:

Slight firing last night. All quiet this morning. Whiting cannot be here until Tuesday afternoon. Attack will commence Wednesday morning. Gun-boats must participate. Send General Ransom to confer with me as soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

First indorsement.

Received Richmond 8 a. m., and respectfully submitted to His Excellency the President.

JNO. B. SALE,
Commy and Military Secretary.

Second indorsement.

MAY 15, 1864—10 a. m.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

May I be pardoned for saying that this proposed delay seems to me fatal. By Wednesday our fate will in all probability be settled, and, besides, it is almost certain that by that time the enemy will have the aid, either on his side of the river or by cooperative attack on this, of 10,000 or 12,000 more cavalry. I can not conceive why General Whiting could not have moved yesterday or may not to-day. My judgment is that the attack has been already too long delayed, and should now be made at the earliest practicable moment, and I take the responsibility of recommending that you give positive orders to that effect.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

Third indorsement.

MAY 15, 1864.

I concur in the necessity for a prompt attack for the reasons given and others not less important. General Whiting can, I hope, be here to-night so as to take part in the attack to-morrow. Inform General Beauregard of the probability of the return of Sheridan's cavalry.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. N. CAROLINA AND S. VA.,
No. 7. } *Drewry's Bluff, May 15, 1864.*

1. The following temporary organization of the troops [illegible] is hereby announced:

Major-General Hoke's division: Corse's brigade, Johnson's brigade, Clingman's brigade, Hagood's brigade.

Major-General Ransom's division: Barton's brigade, Gracie's brigade, Kemper's brigade, Hoke's brigade.

Reserve, Brig. Gen. A. H. Colquitt commanding: Ransom's brigade, Colquitt's brigade.

Artillery.—Hoke's division: Battalion Washington Artillery, Lieutenant-Colonel Eshleman. Ransom's division: Lightfoot's battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Lightfoot. Colquitt's reserve: Macon's Richmond Fayette Artillery and the battalion under Captain Martin, all under Major Owen, Washington Artillery.

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By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 15, 1864.

General BRAGG,
Headquarters Confederate Armies, Richmond:

GENERAL: I arrived here by order of General Beauregard on the 13th, having received a telegram to "come on and confer with him if I could leave Wilmington without danger." On arriving I found the general about leaving and received orders to assume command of the department, to make my headquarters where necessary, and to report to the War Department. I have examined the situation of affairs here and the system of defense. It is my duty to tell you that both are very unpromising—the latter worthless. The enemy having been permitted to occupy the important position of Howlett's Neck, between the James and Appomattox, with the force he possesses, threatens equally Drewry's Bluff and Petersburg. The latter is in great danger because on the north side toward the enemy it has no fortifications, it having been apparently thought that the river would be defense enough, whereas it is an advantage to the enemy.

They have also occupied the Red Bluff and the river from City Point, on the right bank, to the Red Bluff. This is 1½ miles from the city lines and completely commands the line occupied by our troops on the north of Appomattox and will give them and their gun-boats a ready entrance to the town when they please. The breast-works on the south side are 9 miles in extent and of no use as to the enemy's present position and object. It is, therefore, in his power to take this city, with my present force and position, when he pleases, unless he is attacked on his right. His object is undoubtedly Petersburg, the capture of which is easy and which equally affects Richmond; indeed would be more serious than the taking of Drewry's as well as easier. The massing in front of Drewry's is, I think, a feint. They can change that in any one night, and if not instantly attacked on their right can readily force this insignificant line of Swift Creek held by a small brigade and enfiladed from Red Bluff.

They appear to have been established and fortifying at Red Bluff for some days. In my opinion they are only waiting to commence here for the return of their cavalry raid, which having cut the Danville and South Side railroads are now approaching the Weldon road. I have positive information that this force is under Spear, and after their previous attack on the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad crossed over at City Point, and when our forces moved to Drewry's, passed by their rear to strike the Danville road. As soon as they return they

will command the country and threaten the city lines to the south and east. I expect an attack to-day, certainly very soon. The force here, about 5,000 present of all arms, according to the return, including militia, is not adequate to maintain a position under so many disadvantages, and unless supported it will not be probable that I can save the town—hardly the troops. I do not think it prudent to accumulate stores here. I shall do the best I can, but as to the position of affairs I must say that with the enemy on the James and strongly fortified between the two rivers, neither Richmond nor Petersburg can long be held except by force superior to the enemy's—this place especially.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

So much for the situation. Now for what we may be able to do. I wish to fight for the place to the last extremity. If pressed in heavy force on the north side of the river my reliance must be in a prompt and vigorous attack of the army at Drewry's on the enemy while I hold them back as long as possible. I hope this will be done and successfully, for the safety of this place is vital to Drewry's and to Richmond. The convalescent sick and all that can be moved ought to go on return trains to the hospitals in Halifax. They are not wanted here. Surplus stores, if any, must be put at the Danville Junction. The South Side road was cut yesterday 27 miles from here. I expect hourly to hear of the line of the Weldon road being again cut—the raiders moving in a circuit.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May [15?], 1864.

General BRAGG:

All my cavalry have gone after raid and to protect line of Petersburg and Weldon Railroad. Have recalled them. Available force will be about 3,000, unless the railroads are given up. Four regiments off on that duty. All the wagon trains of Hoke, Pickett and Martin now between here and Weldon.

W. H. C. WHITING.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May [15?], 1864.

General BEAUREGARD:

Dispatch received 11 a. m. Time is rather short, but will do my best. Number of wagons very small; not yet arrived. If any come to-day will forward. Sent train for Hoke and Kemper; ought to be along if raid has not cut road. I think Butler is fighting in your front. He is after Petersburg.

W. H. C. WHITING.

MAY [15?], 1864.

General BEAUREGARD:

Dispatch received. My road to Weldon threatened by large body of cavalry. Same has just cut South Side Railroad and telegraph. Bragg telegraphed attack to be made on enemy. My action must

depend on position and movements of enemy. Dearing's cavalry is protecting the railroad to Weldon. All of your transportation and some artillery are between here and Weldon. Enemy have advanced with cavalry and infantry on Broadway and City Point road. Prisoners report three brigades skirmishing at Swift Creek.

WHITING.

MAY [15], 1864.

General BRAGG,
Richmond:

Dispatch of this morning received. General Beauregard has ordered me to move with two brigades by Newby's Bridge over Swift Creek, thence to Drewry's Bluff. Send him at once the accompanying dispatch:

Expect to be at Newby's Bridge to-morrow night. Petersburg is much exposed; large quantities of supplies below this; raiders reported at Lawrenceville.

WHITING.

MAY [15], 1864.

General BRAGG:

Enemy have advanced picket and lines on right bank of river very close. If they prove to be in force will interfere with move on left.

W. H. C. WHITING.

MAY 15, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
Drewry's Bluff:

Enemy means Petersburg. Can change his front from you here in one night. Think he means to attack me to-morrow. Troops have crossed and gone down the river. With forces cut in two by the river, if weak position of Swift Creek is forced cannot save the town, perhaps not the troops unless you help. Hope the enemy are well watched. I have not force enough. Send this to Richmond.

WHITING.

[MAY 15, 1864.—For Beauregard to Whiting, giving instructions for operations on the 16th instant, see p. 200.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS,
No. —, } *Petersburg, May* 15, 1864.

I. In consequence of orders received Brigadier-General Colston will relieve Brigadier-General Wise of the command of the First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia. General Wise will proceed according to orders heretofore communicated.

II. General Colston will report to me by courier as often as practicable.

III. He will with the troops left here and those of General Dearing make the best disposition in his power to guard the town, and will recall the Seventeenth Virginia as soon as practicable.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[MAY 15, 1864.—For Beauregard's circular to division commanders, containing instructions for battle on the morrow, see p. 200.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 15, 1864.

The following will be the order of march: Will move in advance on the road west of Swift Creek to Newby's Bridge. There should be a party of mounted men scouting in advance. The regiments will move left in front, Miller's battery in the center. The wagon train will follow General Wise's brigade until General Martin's brigade brings up the rear. A section of General Martin's artillery will follow the wagon train. General Wise will send a guide to General Hill, to conduct General Martin from his present position to the nearest point of the Swift Creek road. The quartermasters are directed to attend to the march of the wagons. They will keep them well closed. On no account will any wagon be permitted to stop on the march to water without the orders of the major-general commanding. The same order is extended to the artillery. The column will be kept well closed, the regiments at the proper distance of 22 paces apart as in brigades [*sic*].

[W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.]

HEADQUARTERS.
Petersburg, May 15, 1864.

Memoranda for General Wise: First. Have your brigade in readiness to move with five days' rations and 60 rounds of ammunition per man. They must be across the river at 3 a. m. and follow the line of march of Martin's brigade and Colquitt's regiments, bringing up the rear of column. Second. Send order recalling General Dearing and order him to guard approaches to Petersburg until arrival of General Walker. Third. Assign General Colston to command and direct the distribution of the forces left about the city. Fourth. Order Sixty-fourth Georgia to report to General Hill immediately. Fifth. Send inclosed order to General Hill or Martin, whoever is present. Sixth. Order Miller's battery to be ready to move with your troops. Seventh. If you have any wagons of your brigade load them up with rations; no baggage. If any arrive during the day, the same. Eighth. Order of march will be sent this evening. Ninth. Provide good guides.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 15, 1864.

General HILL, or
General MARTIN,
Swift Creek:

Be ready to march at daylight to-morrow morning with your brigade and the regiments of Colquitt. Have five days' rations and 60 rounds of ammunition. Report when all ready. Captain Blount's battery will accompany your brigade and should also be ready. As soon as the Sixty-fourth Georgia reports to you, cause it to relieve your outpost pickets and post their reserve as judiciously as you can. The order of march will be sent you to-night.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 15, 1864.

General HILL:

Please send me the number of your bayonets. Do you want artillery? Any indications on part of enemy? South Side road cut 27 miles from here yesterday afternoon. Expect same on Weldon to-day. Then we must look out. How about your left flank?

Yours, truly,

W. H. C. WHITING.

MAY [15], 1864.

General HILL:

Don't move in the morning until I reach you. Orders changed. Have the whole force on Swift Creek ready to advance toward Walthall Junction in the best dispositions you think proper. I will come up with Wise and my whole available force—cavalry and all. We will advance. Beauregard has determined to attack, and directs me to advance, take position, and as soon as I hear his guns pitch in wherever I find anybody. This suits better. Send me your opinion as to where I had better order the cavalry.

Yours, truly,

WHITING.

Will send you copy of whole order as soon as deciphered.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 15, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel TATE,
On Railroad between Petersburg and Weldon.

COLONEL: Move your regiment by railroad to Petersburg at once. Communicate the same order to the regiment of Kemper's brigade now on the road either at Hicksford or at Weldon.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 15, 1864.

Colonel HINTON, *Weldon:*

If you have not received a dispatch from me to General Walker at Kinston by telegraph, cause the following to be forwarded as soon as possible:

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 15, 1864.

General WALKER, *Kinston:*

Move with your brigade to Petersburg at once. Notify General Hebert to send on your regiments and to Colonel Jackson to relieve you, making the best arrangement he and you can with local troops and his force.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

MAY 15, 1864.

Colonel JACKSON, *Commanding at Kinston:*

If you can put any force at Kenansville do so.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

MAY 15, 1864.

Colonel JACKSON, *Magnolia Station:*

A battalion will leave at 6 this afternoon to report to you. They will be provided with five days' rations. What amount of supplies have you on hand? We have no cavalry to spare you.

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *May 15, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING, *Petersburg, Va.:*

At 12 m. nothing new of importance in this command. I send one battalion of Eighteenth South Carolina Regiment to Kenansville, as a precaution, in case of any raid which might leave New Berne. All the troops from the south have gone through. Stores are still going up from here. Please let me know if this is to be continued. Colonel Tansill and Major Hill left to-day.

LOUIS HEBERT,
Brigadier-General.

Field return of Johnson's brigade, near Drewry's Bluff, May 15, 1864.

Command	Effective total	Total present	Aggregate present	Laundresses	Prisoners
Provost guard	32	32	34	1	1
17th and 26th Tennessee Regiments	570	599	609	15	
23d and 25th Tennessee Regiments	379	458	470	6	
63d Tennessee Regiment	374	451	479	1	
General and staff			8		
Grand total	854	1,070	1,190	23	1

W. T. BLAKEMORE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 15, 1864.

LEWIS E. HARVIE,
President Richmond and Danville Railroad, Burkeville:

SIR: I congratulate you on the gallant and successful defense of your road. I have no instructions to give except to use your own best judgment to press on supplies in a continuous stream to this place whenever the state of the road allows, and, if interrupted, then on to Lynchburg. Urge a daily flood to the greatest possible volume.

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. HOWELL COBB,
Macon, Ga.:

Order the Fifty-sixth Georgia Regiment and Twenty-sixth Alabama Regiment, Colonel O'Neal, to proceed immediately by railroad to Richmond. They must move promptly.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN K. JACKSON,
Savannah, Ga.:

Order the Twelfth Georgia Battalion and Forty-seventh and Fifty-fifth Georgia Regiments to proceed immediately by railroad to Richmond. The movement must be made with the greatest possible expedition.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
Via Guiney's Station, May 16, 1864.

His Excellency PRESIDENT DAVIS:

The enemy has made no movement against our position to-day. He has retired his right and extended his left toward Massaponax Church, occupying the line of the Ny River, his main force being apparently east of that stream.

R. E. LEE.

GUINEY'S, *May* 16, 1864.
(Received 3 o'clock.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

The enemy remained quiet in our front to-day. Late this afternoon he is reported moving in force to our right on the Telegraph road. His trains have been passing back toward Fredericksburg, apparently to procure fresh supplies.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 16, 1864.

Lieutenant-General EWELL:

The latest reports from Smith's Mill (Telegraph road) represent that the force which advanced to that point was only cavalry and about two regiments. Everything appears perfectly quiet in this direction (Early's and Anderson's front). I hope you will keep your pickets on the alert to-night, and it would be well for you to send a scout out on your left in order to discover any movement of the enemy that may be made that way. I feel no apprehension for your front if the men do their duty. McGowan's brigade is in reserve on Early's left and Kershaw's division is in reserve on the extreme right.

Most respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 113. } *Richmond, May* 16, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. James L. Kemper will take immediate command of the reserve forces of the State of Virginia. He will complete their organization and place them at once in service. To this end he is authorized to employ all enrolling officers, who are hereby directed to obey his instructions. He will establish his headquarters at such point as he may deem best. Officers of the Quartermaster's, Commissary, Ordnance, and Medical Departments are required to furnish all necessary facilities. All officers from the State of Virginia of the Invalid Corps and such of the regular forces as are for any reason unassigned will immediately report to General Kemper, who is authorized to assign them temporarily to duty with the reserves.

* * * * * * *

VI. Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, commanding, &c., will send to this city with the greatest possible expedition a good brigade of infantry from Florida, taking those troops that are most accessible.

VII. Capt. R. C. Macmurdo, assistant quartermaster, in addition to his other duties, is assigned to duty with the troops for local defense, commanded by Brig. Gen. G. W. C. Lee, and will report accordingly.

* * * * * * *

XIV. The Seventeenth and Thirtieth Virginia Regiments will immediately proceed by the Petersburg railroad to rejoin their brigade, under General Hoke, near Drewry's Bluff.

* * * * * * *

XVIII. The Twelfth and Eighteenth Georgia Battalions, the Forty-seventh, Fifty-fifth, and Fifty-sixth Georgia Regiments, the Twenty-sixth Alabama Regiment (Colonel O'Neal), and the Tenth and Nineteenth South Carolina Regiment, will proceed immediately by railroad to this city with the greatest possible expedition. If the Twentieth South Carolina Regiment (Colonel Keitt) has not moved to Dalton it will also be sent.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 16, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: Please order Major-Generals Samuel Jones and Patton Anderson direct (to save time) to send us with the greatest expedition a good brigade of infantry from Florida, taking those troops most accessible. We cannot specify, as the returns are so made as to exclude all information on which we can act. The cavalry in Florida is now ample to protect it.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

CHARLESTON, *May* 16, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Your dispatch of to-day received. I have ordered General Anderson to form the whole of his infantry into one brigade and send it to Richmond with the greatest possible dispatch, Brigadier-General Finegan, commanding. The brigade will be small, and formed of battalions and unattached companies, but it is all I have in that State. I greatly doubt if one-half of the men ordered will leave Florida, and my order will cause desertions and disorganization. I have not an infantry brigade (or brigadier) in that department.

SAM. JONES,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. PATTON ANDERSON,
Lake City, Fla.:

You will send to this city with the greatest possible expedition a good brigade of infantry, taking those troops that are most accessible.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

CAMP MILTON, FLA., *May* 16, 1864.

General S. COOPER:

Your dispatch of this date received. Will send all the infantry in this district, amounting to 1,100.

PATTON ANDERSON.
Major-General.

[MAY 16, 1864.—For Beauregard to Bragg (four dispatches), reporting progress of engagement, &c., see pp. 196–198.]

ON TURNPIKE, *May* 16, 1864—4.15 p. m.

General WHITING:

SIR: The enemy has been driven back on our right. Corse's and Clingman's forces are moved to the line of works on hill west of railroad. We are about making a general advance with all forces. Can you not aid in the movement at once?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.
By G. W. L.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT,
Petersburg, May 16, 1864.

Capt. W. C. STRONG,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that no troops have reached this point from any direction. The raiders are reported to be again advancing on the South Side Railroad, but I entertain no danger from that quarter. I have just received information that two regiments of Yankee cavalry are advancing on the Prince George Court-House road, and have put my troops in motion to receive them should they approach our intrenchments. The ammunition will be sent to the bridge as directed.

By order of Brigadier-General Colston:

R. F. GRAVES, JR.,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 16, 1864.

General HÉBERT, *Wilmington:*

Telegraph Governor Vance that Walker is ordered from Kinston here and your troops also—that is, Evans. No definite news. We hold our own but are hard pressed. I move to-morrow to cut my way to Drewry's Bluff.

WHITING.

MAY 16, 1864.

Governor VANCE, *Raleigh:*

General Whiting telegraphs from Petersburg to me to telegraph to you that General Walker is ordered from Kinston to Petersburg, and also that portion of his brigade that is here.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 16, 1864.

General L. MCLAWS,
Burkeville Junction, via Lynchburg:

Information just received that the enemy encamped last night 12 miles from the Appomattox bridge, on the Danville road. It is of the greatest importance to protect the bridge. Do what you can to afford such protection.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 16, 1864.

General L. MCLAWS,
Burkeville Junction:

It is just reported the enemy's cavalry are making up beyond Big Nottoway River, toward Lunenburg Court-House, about 12 miles from Blacks and Whites when reported. This looks as if they were aiming at the bridge across the Staunton River, which must be protected, if possible, with any forces at command. Cavalry are said to be coming on. Perhaps a detachment might be stopped at or near that bridge until further orders. Notify, too, all local reserves to rally to it. The value of the bridge you will appreciate.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 16, 1864.

LEWIS E. HARVIE,
Burkeville Junction:

Information of return of raiders toward Mattoax was a mistake communicated to Mr. Talcott by J. J. Reeves. They are really proceeding as if toward Staunton bridge. I have just had confirmation of this from Mr. Talcott. Be active and vigilant to prevent.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 16, 1864.

LEWIS E. HARVIE,
Burkeville Junction:

I have just telegraphed General McLaws that report has been received of probable advance of enemy's cavalry from Blacks and Whites toward Staunton River. See my telegram to him. I recommend you to proceed at once to the river and take every measure in your power to protect the bridge.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, *May* 17, 1864.
(Via Guiney's. Received 3.15 a. m. 18th.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

The enemy has made no demonstration against our position to-day. His army still lies in the valley of the Ny, extending across the road from this place to Fredericksburg. For some reason there seems to be a pause in his movements. The army received with joy the news of General Beauregard's success south of James River, as reported in the papers of to-day.

R. E. LEE.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
May 17, 1864.

The major-general commanding desires you to communicate to the troops under your command the following gratifying intelligence, contained in the Richmond papers of to-day: Early yesterday morning General Beauregard attacked the enemy on the south side of James River and drove him from his works, with the loss of more than 1,000 prisoners, including one brigadier-general and several pieces of artillery. The enemy was forced back about 2½ miles, to Proctor's Creek, where he had been again attacked at last accounts.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. M. SORREL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 17, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: Please issue order to General Beauregard that as soon as it is ascertained with certainty that the enemy has retired within his intrenchments Maj. Gen. R. Ransom will return to his command in Richmond.

I am, general, very respectfully,
JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.
For BRAGG,
General.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 17, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: Please cause orders to be issued to Major-General Ransom to send as re-enforcement to General Beauregard, Drewry's Bluff, following brigades, viz: Gracie's, Kemper's, commanded by Colonel Terry; and Hoke's old brigade, commanded by Colonel Lewis. Let the order take effect from 14th instant, inclusive.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.
For BRAGG,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 114. } *Richmond, May* 17, 1864.

* * * * * * *

IV. The following-named brigades will proceed to Drewry's Bluff and report to General G. T. Beauregard, commanding, this order to take effect from the 14th instant, inclusive: Gracie's brigade, Brigadier-General Gracie, jr.; Kemper's brigade, Colonel Terry; Hoke's old brigade, Colonel Lewis.

* * * * * * *

VI. The following-named officers will report to Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., for assignment to duty on his staff: Majors T. O. Chestney, Thomas Rowland, T. P. Branch, Capt. J. T. Brown, assistant adjutants-general.

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VIII. The following-named officers will report to Brig. Gen. James L. Kemper, commanding reserve forces of Virginia, for assignment to temporary duty: Brig. Gen. F. T. Nicholls, Provisional Army, C. S.; Col. M. S. Langhorne, Eleventh Virginia Volunteers; Col. E. C. Lee, Provisional Army, C. S.; Col. P. P. Slaughter, Fifty-sixth Virginia Volunteers; Capt. Richard Laidley, Twenty-second Virginia Volunteers; Capt. W. T. Fry, assistant adjutant-general; First Lieut. W. H. Crank, Provisional Army, C. S.

IX. As soon as it is ascertained with certainty that the enemy has retired within his intrenchments on the south side of James River, Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., will return to his command in Richmond.

* * * * * * *

XVIII. The provisions of paragraph X, Special Orders, No. 44, current series, to wit, "The issues of forage to the private animals of officers stationed at posts in Virginia and North Carolina are hereby restricted to such animals entitled to forage as the commandants of those posts shall certify to be absolutely necessary to the discharge of the official duties of these officers, in no case allowing more than 1 horse to such officer. Mill offal shall be used at these posts when it can be procured, and in the absence of this the grain ration shall not exceed six pounds of corn or its equivalent in shelled oats. Whenever practicable the corn ration shall be converted into meal and fed with cut long forage as chopped food. The ration of long forage shall not exceed nine pounds of hay or its equivalent in straw, which is to be used in preference as long as the same can be procured in sufficient quantities," are extended so as to embrace all posts east of the Mississippi River.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, May 17, 1864.

General BRAGG:

It is now 7 a. m. The enemy has been reported by General Hoke and by deserters to have fallen back on their intrenchments in front of Bermuda Hundred Neck. Our general advance has commenced. My first headquarters will be at Winfree's house.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA.,
No. —. } *May* 17, 1864.

II. In accordance with orders of the War Department, Major-General Ransom is relieved from duty in this command. He will proceed to Richmond and resume command of his department. The

commanding general takes occasion to express his cordial appreciation of General Ransom's brilliant conduct in the battle of yesterday, and his great regret in relinquishing his valued services at this moment.

By command of General Beauregard:

SAML. W. MELTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
Friend's House, May 17, 1864.

I. In obedience to the within order I hereby assume command of Ransom's division. The following staff officers are hereby announced:

Capt W. T. Blakemore, aide-de-camp; Capt. R. E. Foote, aide-de-camp; Maj. George O. Watts, assistant inspector-general.

B. R. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS,
No. —. } *Hancock's House, May 17, 1864.*

The brigade of Brigadier-General Johnson is assigned to Ransom's division, and Kemper's brigade to Hoke's division. The exchange will be made at the earliest practicable moment. Mean time Brig. Gen. B. R. Johnson will forthwith assume command of Ransom's division.

By order of General Beauregard:

SAML. W. MELTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BURKEVILLE, *May* 17, 1864—4 p. m.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

Major Trenholm's squadron of about 190 men, which has been detained by order of General McLaws following up the movements of the raiders under General Kautz, will assemble at Blacks and Whites on the South Side Railroad to-night, and will proceed by rapid marches to Richmond, going by way Bevill's Bridge on Appomattox. I can learn nothing of Rutledge's Fourth South Carolina, nor any other cavalry en route between here and Danville. What disposition shall I make of the troops here since the enemy have left this vicinity?

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. D. WYLIE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 17, 1864.

General McLAWS,
Burkeville Junction:

Intelligence last received shows the raiding party to have passed toward Lawrenceville, and afterward proceeded to attack some forces of ours at Belfield. They do not seem to be aiming at the

Staunton bridge. Any cavalry that may have been detained and others coming on, should be sent forward to this city, not, however, by rail, as that would intercept supplies. A permanent guard for the Staunton bridge should, if possible, be provided of reserves and any veteran troops you can spare.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

WILMINGTON, *May* 17, 1864.

Major-General JONES,
Charleston, S. C.:

I command here and have orders not to send stores north, at present. Want of storing room here makes me suggest that stores be stopped south.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

No. 1.—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-eighth Regiments of North Carolina troops.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do resolve, That the thanks of Congress are eminently due, and are hereby tendered, to the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-eighth Regiments of North Carolina troops, for the promptness and unanimity with which they have re-enlisted for the war.

Approved May 17, 1864.

No. 2.—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to the Texas Brigade in the Army of Northern Virginia.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do resolve, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to the Texas brigade, composed of the First, Fourth, and Fifth Texas and Third Arkansas Regiments, for their eminently patriotic conduct in re-enlisting for the war.

Approved May 17, 1864.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, *May* 18, 1864—7 p. m.
(Via Milford. Received 9.30 p. m. 19th.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

The enemy opened his batteries at sunrise on a portion of Ewell's lines, attempted an assault, but failed. He was easily repulsed. Subsequently he cannonaded a portion of Hill's lines under Early. Casualties on our side very few.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
May 18, 1864—9 p. m.

Brig. Gen. E. P. ALEXANDER,
Chief of Arty., First Corps, Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: An attack is expected in the morning. The enemy will probably open fiercely with artillery very early on the front be-

tween the Court-House and the Church, expecting thereby to distract our attention and so get an opportunity to press forward his infantry for assault. Most likely his chief effort will be made near the corner where the road from the Court-House toward Massaponax Church crosses our line. That region of our line is deemed less strong than some others. It has been examined, and its defense arranged by General Smith, engineer, Colonel Walker, whose proper command is there, General Long, and myself, but we wish your judgment exercised also upon it. Besides, a few more guns near there in reserve, or in position on the line, may be valuable, and we shall have to depend on your reserve for them, as all Walker's and Long's are exhausted. Will you be so good as to visit the locality in the morning as soon as you can see at all, and have up near there in some safe place say an additional battery—any additions you deem important. Please confer with Colonel Walker about it, if you can find him; he is at the Frazier house, on the left hand, as you go from your headquarters to the Court-House. If you cannot see him, arrange for what you deem best with Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, commanding the guns near there.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

Shells are pretty lively all about the Court-House, and between there and the Frazier house.

Report of ammunition in the ordnance trains of the artillery, Army of Northern Virginia, May 18, 1864.

Rounds of—	First Corps.	Second Corps.	Third Corps.	Grand Total.
Napoleon shell	170	72	176	418
Napoleon shot	208	...	136	344
Napoleon case	960	104	1,000	2,064
Napoleon canister	8	...	16	24
3-inch rifle shell	920	140	580	1,640
3-inch rifle canister	...	...	54	54
10-pounder Parrott shell	982	432	572	1,986
10-pounder Parrott canister	...	...	18	18
20-pounder Parrott shell	572	388	72	632
20-pounder Parrott canister	...	8	...	8
24-pounder howitzer case	72	...	24	96
24-pounder howitzer shell	72	...	...	72
12-pounder howitzer shell	170	...	...	170
Total ammunition in each ordnance train	3,834	1,044	2,588	7,466

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 115. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, May 18, 1864.*

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XV. Col. P. T. Moore, Provisional Army, C. S., is temporarily assigned to duty in organizing and placing in the field the reserve forces of Virginia, and will report to Brig. Gen. J. L. Kemper, commanding, &c., in this city.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 18, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: Please cause the following orders to be issued, viz:

1. The Third North Carolina Regiment Cavalry, Colonel Baker, belonging to Gordon's brigade, Army of Northern Virginia, now on duty with General Beauregard, to report immediately to Major-General Fitz. Lee, north of Richmond.

2. Lieutenant-Colonel Elliott's Virginia Battalion, local service troops, to be detached from Hunton's brigade, and remain in the defenses around Richmond.

Your obedient servant,

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.
For BRAGG,
General.

MAY 18, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Richmond:*

Your order regarding one brigade to be thrown over the river has been obeyed.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE,
Chesterfield County, Va., [May] 18, 1864.

General BRAGG, *Commanding, Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: Your communication of this date has just been received. The cavalry ordered to Virginia from the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Special Orders, No. 29, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, was turned over to Major-General Hampton, who was charged by the War Department with the movement. They are now en route, in accordance, I presume, with the order of movement prescribed by General Hampton. The two companies of the Fifth South Carolina Cavalry reached here with General Whiting's division. They are under Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffords, and will be sent to rejoin the regiment across the James River at the earliest practicable moment.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

[Memorandum.]

HDQRS. DEPT. N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Hancock's House, 24 miles North of
Walthall Junction, Va., May 18, 1864—9 p. m.

The crisis demands prompt and decisive action. The two armies are now too far apart to secure success, unless we consent to give up Petersburg, and thus place the capital in jeopardy. If General Lee will fall back behind the Chickahominy, engaging the enemy so as to draw him on, General Beauregard can bring up 15,000 men to unite with Breckinridge and fall upon the enemy's flank with over 30,000 effectives, thus rendering Grant's defeat certain and decisive,

in time to enable General Beauregard to return with re-enforcements from General Lee to drive Butler from before Petersburg and from his present position in advance of Bermuda Hundred. Petersburg and Richmond could be held three days, or four at most, by the forces left there for that purpose. Without such concentration nothing decisive can be effected, and the picture presented is one of ultimate starvation. Without concentration General Lee must eventually fall back before Grant's heavy re-enforcements, whereas the plan presented merely anticipates this movement for offensive purposes. Mean time it is impossible to effectually protect our lines of communication with North Carolina, and impossible to hold our present line in front of Butler with a much more reduced line. At present 3,000 men can be spared from there with safety; day after to-morrow perhaps 2,000 more, for our lines will probably be stronger if, as we expect, our advanced line can be occupied to-morrow.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA.,
No. 8. } *May* 18, 1864.

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V. The brigade of Brigadier-General Johnson is assigned to Ransom's division and Kemper's brigade to Hoke's division. The exchange will be made at the earliest practicable moment. Brig. Gen. B. R. Johnson will forthwith assume command of Ransom's division.

VI. Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill is assigned to the command of the division composed of Wise's and Martin's brigades and of Dearing's brigade of cavalry.

VII. Pursuant to instructions from General Bragg, the brigades of Corse, Kemper, Barton, and Hoke, with Lightfoot's battalion of artillery, are relieved from duty in this department, and will cross James River on the bridge immediately above Drewry's Bluff, and report to Maj. Gen. R. Ransom, commanding in that section.

VIII. Ransom's brigade is hereby assigned temporarily to Johnson's division.

IX. Brigadier-General Colquitt, with three regiments of his brigade (one remaining at Port Walthall Junction), is assigned to Hoke's division, and will report accordingly. General Colquitt will order the battalion of artillery under Major Owen to report to General Johnson.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, *May* 19, 1864.
(Via Hanover Junction. Received 6.40 20th.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War.*

The enemy continues to drift toward our right. To develop his purpose General Ewell was directed to cross the Ny and find his right. He discovered his main body between the Spotsylvania and Fredericksburg road and the Telegraph road, and returned within our lines.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 116. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, May* 19, 1864.

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VII. Capt. Thomas Butler, Provisional Army, C. S., now on inspection duty with General B. Bragg, will proceed under his instructions to make a thorough inspection of the guards and bridges of the Danville and Piedmont railroads.

VIII. Maj. F. Molloy, commissary of subsistence, is assigned to duty as chief commissary Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, and will report without delay to the general commanding.

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XIV. Colonel Gary, with his command, Hampton Legion Mounted Infantry, will report to Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., in this city, for assignment to duty.

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XVIII. Maj. Gen. George E. Pickett will immediately report to the general commanding Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, who will reassemble and place him in command of that portion of his old division within the limits of that department.

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XXV. The Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion, local service troops, Lieut. Col. W. M. Elliott commanding, is detached from Hunton's brigade, and will remain in the defenses around Richmond.

XXVI. In consideration of the meritorious conduct of the members of the battalion of soldiers lately released from the military prison in this city, and their good conduct during the late operations of the enemy in the immediate vicinity, the President directs that as soon as their present organization is broken up the men be returned to their respective commands without any further investigation of, or punishment for, the offenses with which they are individually charged.

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XXIX. Surg. R. P. Page, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty as chief surgeon Western District of North Carolina, and will report accordingly.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 19, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith for your information: First. Copy of communication of 14th instant, from General Beauregard, received to-day. Second. Copy of communication thereupon from myself to His Excellency the President, submitting remarks upon the plan exhibited in General Beauregard's letter.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VIRGINIA,
Drewry's Bluff, Va., May 14, 1864.

General B. BRAGG,
Commanding C. S. Armies, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: Considering the vital importance of the issue involved, and resting upon the success of the plan I suggested to you this morning, I have deemed it advisable and appropriate that their substance should be briefly communicated in writing. General Lee's army, at Guiney's Station, and my command, at this place, are on nearly a right line passing through Richmond. Grant's army is on the left flank and Butler's on the right. Our lines are thus interior. Butler's aim is unquestionably to invest and turn Drewry's Bluff, threatening and holding the Petersburg and Danville railroads, opening the obstructions in the river at Fort Drewry for the passage of war vessels, and necessitating the return of General Lee to the lines about Richmond. With the railroads held by the enemy, Grant in front and Butler in rear of the works around Richmond, the capital would be practically invested, and the issue may well be dreaded.

The plan submitted is: That General Lee should fall back to the defensive lines of the Chickahominy, even to the intermediate lines of Richmond, sending temporarily to this place 15,000 men of his troops. Immediately upon that accession to my present force, I would take the offensive and attack Butler vigorously. Such a move would throw me directly upon Butler's communications, and, as he now stands, with his right flank well turned toward his rear, General Whiting should also move simultaneously, and Butler must necessarily be crushed or captured, and all the stores of that army would then fall into our hands, an amount, probably, that would make an interruption of our communications for a period of a few days a matter of no serious inconvenience. The proposed attack should be accomplished in two days at furthest after receiving my re-enforcements. This done, I would move with 10,000 more men to the assistance of General Lee than I drew from him, and Grant's fate could not long remain doubtful. The destruction of Grant's forces would open the way for the recovery of most of our lost territory, as already submitted to you in general terms.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 19, 1864.

MR. PRESIDENT: I have the honor herewith to submit to Your Excellency copy of a letter just received from General Beauregard, and the following remarks thereupon. The plan proposed by General Beauregard in the inclosed paper was opposed for the following reasons, viz:

First. It involved such delay during which the enemy held our railroads from the south as to entirely exhaust our small stock of subsistence on hand.

Second. It allowed the enemy now closely around us at Drewry's Bluff to intrench his position, so as to overcome the proposed advantage of re-enforcements to our side.

Third. It involved the almost certain fall of Petersburg during that delay.

Fourth. The retreat of General Lee, a distance of 60 miles, from the immediate front of a superior force with not less than 8,000 of the enemy's cavalry between him and the Chickahominy, to retard his movement, at least endangered the safety of his army, if it did not involve its destruction.

Fifth. Such a retreat, even if successful, would have exposed to devastation a large portion of valuable territory on which we must depend for supplies in future; and would have seriously injured the high morale of Lee's army.

Sixth. It would abandon the whole valley of Virginia, and give the enemy possession of the Central railroad by which Lee is now fed via Lynchburg.

Seventh. It was unnecessary, as the force now under General Beauregard, 20,000 infantry, 1,000 artillery, and 2,000 cavalry, was ample for the purpose of crushing that under Butler, if promptly and vigorously used.

For these reasons, after hearing General Beauregard's suggestions, I earnestly urged upon Your Excellency the policy of attack at the earliest moment. The attack was made, and the enemy easily routed. Our communications were restored, and our divided forces united. General Lee still holds his position defiantly. The results anticipated from the attack are not fully realized; but from no want of force on our part, nor from error in the plan.

Most respectfully,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

Indorsement.]

MAY 26, 1864.

The objections of General Bragg to this plan, as well as others that might be urged, seem to me conclusive against its adoption. As, however, the matter has been directly submitted to the President, I do not feel called upon to take any action on the subject.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

RICHMOND, *May* 19, 1864.

Copy of telegram dated Hancock's house, May 18, 1864, received here 19th, viz:

General BRAGG:

I have about 10,000 infantry, 2,000 cavalry, and four battalions artillery this side Swift Creek, beyond Swift Creek Walker's brigade and two regiments Dearing's brigade cavalry.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

Official copy respectfully submitted to the Adjutant-General for his information.

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE,
Turnpike, 2¼ miles north of Walthall Junction, Va.,
May 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg, Va.:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your letter of the 18th instant has been received, inclosing an article of the Petersburg Daily Register of same date reflecting severely on your conduct in connection with the battle of Drewry's Bluff. I have only time to answer you in a few words. I regret sincerely, as your friend, that the Register should have published the article referred to, which, I regret still more to say, seems to contain the opinion of your brother officers in your failure to co-operate with me on Monday last. I shall not be able to express the opinion you desire until after having read your official report, and those of your subordinate commanders, which, I hope, may yet clear your military reputation of the cloud which rests at present upon it.

Yours, sincerely,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 19, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
Hancock's House:

GENERAL: Your order, detaching General Walker and four regiments, has been received and issued. I was on the point of reporting all in readiness for Colston's expedition to-night; but this, of course, puts an end to it for the present, as we have now but the Sixty-Fourth Georgia, on Swift Creek, and the militia, with Colonel Tate (Sixth North Carolina), in town. I have directed General Dearing to scout all the approaches, including those to Level Ford, until further orders.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 19, 1864.

General DEARING,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: By reason of an order of the general commanding, detaching General Walker, the proposed expedition will not take place. In view of our exposed position now without him, I wish you to scout all the dangerous approaches to the city, including that to Level Ford, and enjoin your men not only to scout, but to prepare to fight, in case of enemy's approach. Report to me at once should you receive orders from higher authority not coming through this office.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
May 19, 1864. (Received 11 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you make all the necessary preparations to have the lines advanced to-morrow morning at daylight, as ordered by him to-day. To this end he desires that you meet Generals Hoke and Hill and agree upon the necessary signal for the opening of the fire and for its cessation.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA., *Hancock's House, May* 19, 1864.

I. The following-named officers having reported to these headquarters, in pursuance to orders from the War Department, are hereby announced on the staff of the commanding general, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Lieut. Col. Alfred Roman, assistant adjutant and inspector general; Lieut. Col. J. R. Waddy, chief ordnance officer; Surg. R. L. Brodie, medical director.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ALTERNATE DESIGNATIONS

OF

ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS VOLUME.*

Abbot's (Henry L.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Abbott's (Joseph C.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Aigan's (John) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Allen's (C. Tacitus) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Lunenburg Heavy Artillery, post.*
Angel's (James R.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery K.*
Armistead's (A. D.) **Artillery.** See *Mathews Artillery, post.*
Ashby's (George E.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery E.*
Aylett's (William R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 53d Regiment.*
Bacon's (Theodore) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Bailey's (Peter S.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Baker's (John A.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Baker's (J. Stannard) **Cavalry.** See *District of Columbia Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Baker's (Leroy A.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 39th Regiment.*
Ballenger's (M. R.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Barnes' (Almont) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery C.*
Batte's (Peter V.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate 44th Battalion.*
Beecher's (Henry B.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery A.*
Belger's (James) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery F.*
Ben Ellis Artillery. See *McLeod Artillery, post.*
Bigelow's (John) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 9th Battery.*
Blount's (Joseph G.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Bomar's (Thomas H.) **Artillery.** See *Chestatee Artillery, post.*
Bost's (J. M.) **Infantry.** See *Holcombe Legion, post.*
Bowen's (George K.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 188th Regiment.*
Bowie's (Henry C.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*
Boynton's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Bradford's (William D.) **Artillery.** See *Confederate Guards, Artillery, post.*
Breathed's (James) **Artillery.** See *Philip Preston Johnston's Artillery, post.*
Brinckle's (John R.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery E.*
Brown's (Ridgely) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion.*
Brunck's (Frank C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 100th Regiment.*
Buckley's (William W.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery D.*
Burke's (William H.) **Artillery.** See *Colin Richardson's Artillery, post.*
Burpee's (Thomas F.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Burton's (John E.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 11th Battery.*
Cabell's (George C.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 18th Regiment.*
Cabell's (Joseph R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 38th Regiment.*

* References, unless otherwise indicated, are to index following.

Campbell's (Edward) Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 85th Regiment.*
Caroline Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Carpenter's (Elisl F.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 112th Regiment.*
Cary's (N. R.) Heavy Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Battalion.*
Caskie's (William H.) Artillery. See *Hampden Artillery, post.*
Catlin's (Isaac S.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 109th Regiment.*
Chaddock's (William H.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 112th Regiment.*
Chaplin's (Daniel) Heavy Artillery. See *Maine Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Charleston City Battalion, Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Chestatee Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*
Chesterfield Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Choate's (Francis C.) Artillery. See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment, Battery L*
City Battalion, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Battalion.*
Clark's (A. Judson) Artillery. See *New Jersey Troops, 2d Battery.*
Clarke's (William J.) Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 24th Regiment.*
Clayton's (Theodore) Cavalry. See *Purnell Legion, Cavalry, post.*
Cloke's (Albert S.) Cavalry. See *New Jersey Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Cole's (George W.) Cavalry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment.*
Coleman's (Wiley G.) Heavy Artillery. See *Neblett Heavy Artillery, post.*
Confederate Guards, Artillery. See *Mississippi Troops.*
Conger's (Everton J.) Cavalry. See *District of Columbia Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Coughlin's (John) Infantry. See *New Hampshire Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Crane's (James P.) Infantry. See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Crooks' (Samuel J.) Cavalry. See *New York Troops, 22d Regiment.*
Crosby's (Hiram B.) Infantry. See *Connecticut Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Cumming's (James D.) Artillery. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion, Battery C.*
Curtis' (N. Martin) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 142d Regiment.*
Daley's (William) Infantry. See *Massachusetts Troops, 25th Regiment.*
Dandy's (George B.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 100th Regiment.*
Dantzler's (O. M.) Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops, 22d Regiment.*
Dargan's (A. T.) Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Dearing's (James) Cavalry. See *Confederate Troops, Regulars.*
Dement's (William F.) Artillery. See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 1st Battery.*
Derrick's (H. C.) Engineers. See *Confederate Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment.*
Dobbs' (Cyrus J.) Infantry. See *Indiana Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Dollard's (Robert) Cavalry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment.*
Drewry's (John W.) Artillery. See *Southside Artillery, post.*
Dunovant's (John) Cavalry. See *South Carolina Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Durell's (George W.) Artillery. See *Pennsylvania Troops Battery D.*
Duryee's (Redfield) Infantry. See *Connecticut Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Dushane's (Nathan T.) Infantry. See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Dwight's (Henry C.) Infantry. See *Massachusetts Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Easterly's (George B.) Artillery. See *Wisconsin Troops, 4th Battery.*
Elliott's (Robert T.) Infantry. See *Michigan Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Elliott's (Wyatt M.) Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Battalion*
Emery's (Sabine) Infantry. See *Maine Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Epes' (Branch J.) Artillery. See *Johnston Artillery, post.*
Eshleman's (B. F.) Artillery. See *Washington Artillery, post.*
Ewing's (William A.) Artillery See *Ohio Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
Excelsior 1st Regiment, Infantry. See *New York Troops, 70th Regiment.*
Excelsior 3d Regiment, Infantry. See *New York Troops, 72d Regiment.*
Fairchild's (Harrison S.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 89th Regiment.*
Faison's (Paul F.) Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*

Fauquier Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Fellows' (Charles E.) Cavalry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Ferebee's (Dennis D.) Cavalry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Field's (Frederick K.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 9th and 22d Regiments.*
Floyd's (Eldridge G.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Folk's (George N.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 6th Regiment.*
Follett's (Frederick M.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery D.*
Fontaine's (Clement R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 57th Regiment.*
Frankle's (Jones) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment.*
French's (David A.) **Artillery.** See *McComas Artillery, post.*
Fry's (William O.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*
Fulkerson's (Abraham) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 63d Regiment.*
Fulton's (John S.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 25th and 44th Regiments.*
Gaillard's (Peter C.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Gantt's (F. Hay) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Gardner's (James) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Garrard's (Jeptha) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
Gary's (M. W.) **Infantry.** See *Hampton Legion, post.*
George's (John H.) **Artillery.** See *New Jersey Troops, 4th Battery.*
Gibbs' (John S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery D.*
Gillen's (Edward) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 152d Regiment.*
Gilmor's (Harry W.) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion.*
Goochland Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Graham's (Edward) **Artillery.** See *Petersburg Artillery, post.*
Graham's (Robert F.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Graham's (Samuel A.) **Infantry.** See *Purnell Legion, Infantry, post.*
Green's (Charles A.) **Artillery.** See *Louisiana Guard, Artillery, post.*
Green's (Thomas B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 132d Regiment.*
Gregg's (Thomas E.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 18th Battalion, Battery C.*
Griffin's (Joel R.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Griffin's (William H.) **Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Battery.*
Griggs' (George K.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 38th Regiment.*
Hall's (Newton) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Hampden Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Hampton Legion. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Hankins' (James De Witt) **Artillery.** See *Surry Artillery, post.*
Hardin's (Mark B.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 18th Battalion.*
Harrison's (A. T.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*
Hart's (Patrick) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 15th Battery.*
Haskell's (Frank A.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 36th Regiment.*
Heaton's (Edward) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment, Batteries B and L.*
Henderson's (Thomas A.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Henry's (Guy V.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 40th Regiment.*
Hensley's (James O.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th Battalion.*
Herbert's (Arthur) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*
Hexamer's (William) **Artillery.** See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Battery.*
Higdon's (John B.) **Artillery.** See *McLeod Artillery, post.*
Hitchcock's (George H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 132d Regiment.*
Holcombe Legion. See *South Carolina Troops.*

Hood's (W. H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Reserves.*
Howell's (John H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery M.*
Hughes' (Robert P.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 85th Regiment.*
Humes' [?] **Artillery.** (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Humes* (†).
Hunt's (John S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery L.*
Jacobs' (Ferris, jr.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*
James City Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
James' (Martin S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery C.*
James' (William N.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 25th and 44th Regiments.*
Jeffords' (Robert J.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Johnston Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Johnston's (Philip Preston) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Jones' (Andrew J.) **Heavy Artillery** See *Pamunkey Heavy Artillery, post.*
Jones' (John G.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 35th Regiment.*
Keeble's (R. H.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 17th and 23d Regiments.*
Keitt's (Lawrence M.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Kellogg's (Elisha S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Kelly's (James I.) **Artillery.** See *Chesterfield Artillery, ante.*
Kevill's (Thomas) **Artillery.** See *United Artillery, post.*
Kiddoo's (Joseph B.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 22d Regiment.*
Kincheloe's (James C.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
King's (J. Floyd) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion.*
Kleinz's (Christopher) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Korte's (Frederick) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery M.*
Lambert's (Robert G.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment, Battery B.*
Langdon's (Loomis L.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery M.*
Lewis' (Theodore E.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Lofton's (John T.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Louisiana Guard, Artillery. See *Louisiana Troops.*
Love's (James R.) **Infantry.** See *W. H. Thomas' Legion, post.*
Lunenburg Heavy Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
McAfee's (Lee M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 49th Regiment.*
McChesney's (Joseph M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
McComas Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
McConihe's (John) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 169th Regiment.*
MacDonald's (Christopher R.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 17th Regiment.*
McEwen's (John L., jr.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 25th and 44th Regiments.*
McGregor's (William M.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
McKethan's (Hector) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 51st Regiment.*
McKnight's (George F.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 12th Battery.*
McLennan's (Peter) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 22d Regiment.*
McLeod Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*
McNary's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 155th Regiment.*
Macon Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*
Macon's (Miles C.) **Artillery.** See *Richmond Fayette Artillery, post.*
Marshall's (William C.) **Artillery.** See *Fauquier Artillery, ante.*
Martin's (S. Taylor) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Mathews Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Meeker's (Lorenzo) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Mendell's (George H.) **Engineers.** See *Union Troops, Regulars.*
Miller's (John O.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*

Montague's (Edgar B.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 32d Regiment.*
Morris' (Lewis O.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Morrison's (Emmett M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 15th Regiment.*
Morton's (Peter) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Battery.*
Moulton's (Orson) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 25th Regiment.*
Neblett Heavy Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Nelson Artillery, No. 2. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Nelson Battalion. Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops, 7th Battalion.*
New York 1st Mounted Rifles. Cavalry. See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
North Carolina 59th Regiment. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment, Cavalry.*
North Carolina 65th Regiment. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 6th Regiment, Cavalry.*
Norton's (George F.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Ohio 7th Militia. Infantry. See *Ohio Troops, 137th Regiment.*
Onderdonk's (Benjamin F.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
O'Neal's (Edward A.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 26th Regiment.*
O'Neill's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 118th Regiment.*
O'Neill's (James) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 25th Regiment.*
Osborn's (Francis A.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 24th Regiment.*
Osborn's (Thomas O.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 39th Regiment.*
Otis' (John L.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Owen's (Edward) **Artillery.** See *Washington Artillery, post, 1st Company.*
Owens' (J. T.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*
Page's (Powhatan R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*
Pamunkey Heavy Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Payne's (Micajah) **Artillery.*** See *Micajah Payne.*
Pee Dee Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Pegram's (Richard G.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Pendrell's (William) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Pennsylvania Bucktails. Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Reserves.*
Pennsylvania 1st Rifles. Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Reserves.*
Petersburg Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Phillips' (James J.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
Phillips Legion. See *Georgia Troops.*
Pickett's (Josiah) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 25th Regiment.*
Pike's (Henry C.) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Plimpton's (Josiah I.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Pond's (Francis B.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 62d Regiment.*
Porter's (Peter A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Pressley's (John G.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 25th Regiment.*
Pride's (William G.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Pruyn's (Charles E.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 113th Regiment.*
Purington's (George A.) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Purnell Legion, Cavalry. See *Maryland Troops, Union.*
Purnell Legion, Infantry. See *Maryland Troops, Union.*
Ramsey's (John) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Raulston's (William C.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 24th Regiment.*
Richardson's (Colin) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops.*
Richardson's (John) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*
Richardson's (Lucien W.) **Artillery.** See *James City Artillery, ante.*
Richmond Fayette Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Rion's (James H.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 7th Battalion.*
Rives' (J. Henry) **Artillery.** See *Nelson Artillery, No. 2, ante.*

* Improvised.

Robertson's (James E.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 20th Battalion.*

Robins' (William T.) **Cavalry**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 42d Battalion.*

Robinson's (Zina H.) **Infantry**. See *Maine Troops, 9th Regiment.*

Rockwell's (Alfred P.) **Artillery**. See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Battery.*

Rodman's (Daniel C.) **Infantry**. See *Connecticut Troops, 7th Regiment.*

Roemer's (Jacob) **Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 34th Battery.*

Rutledge's (B. Huger) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 4th Regiment.*

Rutledge's (Henry M.) **Infantry**. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 25th Regiment.*

Sanford's (Oliver S.) **Infantry**. See *Connecticut Troops, 7th Regiment.*

Sanger's (Joseph P.) **Artillery**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery D.*

Schilling's (Franz von) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment.*

Sheldon's (Albert S.) **Artillery**. See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*

Shingler's (William P.) **Cavalry**. See *South Carolina Troops, 7th Regiment.*

Shoemaker's (John J.) **Artillery**. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*

Sisson's (Henry T.) **Heavy Artillery**. See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment.*

Slaten's (C. W.) **Artillery**. See *Macon Artillery, ante.*

Smith's (Charles G.) **Infantry**. See *New York Troops, 132d Regiment.*

Smith's (Martin B.) **Infantry**. See *Connecticut Troops, 7th Regiment.*

Southside Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*

Spear's (Ellis) **Infantry**. See *Maine Troops, 20th Regiment.*

Spear's (Samuel P.) **Cavalry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*

Spofford's (Winslow P.) **Infantry**. See *Maine Troops, 11th Regiment.*

Staffords (Spencer H.) **Infantry**. See *Union Troops, Colored, 10th Regiment.*

Stedman's (Griffin A., jr.) **Infantry**. See *Connecticut Troops, 11th Regiment.*

Stelges' (Claus) **Artillery**. See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery L.*

Stetzel's (George) **Cavalry**. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*

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